

**UCLA** Alumni

# On the Road to Freedom Understanding the Civil Rights Movement

April 24 - May 1, 2022

Featuring **UCLA Assistant Professor Kyle T. Mays**  
Department of African American Studies

**New Flexible Cancellation Terms**  
Cancel up to 45 days prior to departure with no penalty



Jackson · Little Rock · Memphis · Birmingham · Selma · Montgomery

Dear UCLA Alumni and Friends,

Now, more than ever, we need to look back and understand what led to the Civil Rights Movement and, pause, to evaluate what it achieved and also what it did not. Join us on this carefully designed program which takes a deep look at one of the most significant movements to shape American history.

Our program traces the history of this struggle, one which has its roots as far back as the abolition movement, as a profound commitment to achieve racial equality through grassroots organizing. This movement paved the way for many subsequent U.S. civil rights movements, from the women's rights movement to the LGBTQ rights movement, to the Black Lives Matter Movement. Travel through the Mississippi Delta to the Little Rock High School and to Selma– and meet with many key figures who were involved and are exclusive to our program. Framed within the civil rights story are the music and cuisine of the South which were born out of hardship and poverty, still evolving today.

For those interested in contemporary social justice there are great lessons to be learned from earlier struggles in our history where a profound demonstration of commitment, against all odds, succeeded. In the words of Dr. King: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Sincerely,



Christel Aragon  
Director, Alumni Travel



# On the Road to Freedom: Understanding the Civil Rights Movement

## April 24 - May 1, 2022

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### JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

#### April 24, Sunday

After arriving independently in Jackson, make your own way to *The Westin* hotel.

Afternoon visit to the recently opened **Mississippi Civil Rights Museum**. This museum provides an honest and painful account of the Civil Rights Movement in Mississippi, beginning with the backstory to the civil rights period—the European slave trade.

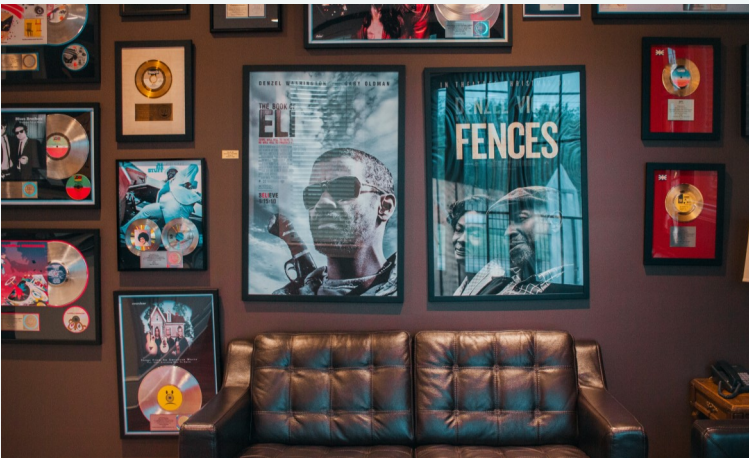
This evening, enjoy a lovely welcome reception and dinner at the hotel. **D**

### JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

#### April 25, Monday

Our day begins at the **Medger Evers Home Museum**. Evers, the first field secretary for the NAACP in Mississippi, was assassinated in the driveway of his Jackson home in the early-morning hours of June 12, 1963. Walk through the home, which has been preserved to maintain the way it looked in 1963.

Continue on to **Malaco Records**, an American independent record label based in Jackson, that has been the home of various major blues and gospel acts such as Johnnie Taylor,



Bobby Bland, Z. Z. Hill, Denise LaSalle, Benny Latimore, Dorothy Moore, Little Milton, Shirley Brown, Marvin Sease, and the Mississippi Mass Choir.

Explore Farish Street, which was the thriving center of African-American life in Jackson during the Jim Crow era. In recent years, the street has fared poorly with boarded-up buildings, vacant lots, and a few lone businesses struggling to survive.

Stop for a snack at the **Big Apple Inn**, whose famous Pig's Ear Sandwich has attracted quite a few celebrities including BB King and even President Obama. We will have a chance to chat with the owner, **Geno Lee**.



Enjoy lunch at Johnny T's Bistro and Blues where we will be joined by **Dr. Robert Luckett**, Director of the Margaret Walker Center and Associate Professor of the Department of History at Jackson State University. We have also requested to meet with **Hezekiah Watkins** who was the state's youngest Freedom Rider, having been arrested at the age of 13.

Stop by the former **Greyhound Bus station**, a site that played a prominent role in the 1961 Freedom Rides against segregation and has been lovingly renovated to preserve the original art deco architecture.

Depart the hotel to enjoy a private music performance by a renowned blues musician and dinner at **Frank Jones Corner**. **B,L,D**

### LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

#### April 26, Tuesday

Depart Jackson this morning for Little Rock, driving through the beautiful flatlands of the Mississippi Delta.

Stop by the **BB King Museum** to experience and learn about blues music, founded here in the Mississippi Delta. Explore the museum and soak in the sounds that transformed the history of music in America.

Afterwards, continue on to **Museum of the Mississippi Delta**.



Here you will meet with **Sylvester and Mary Hoover**, owners of the Hoover's Store which is located in nearby Baptist Town. Mary Hoover has prepared barbeque ribs for lunch and her famous butter-roll. Mary is a fabulous cook, owned a popular soul-food restaurant, and was involved in preparing the spreads for the food scenes in the movie, *The Help*.

After lunch head to **Baptist Town**, best known as the final residence of Robert Johnson—the King of the Delta Blues. Stop in at Hoover's Store, owned by Sylvester and Mary Hoover. Tour the **Back in the Day Museum**, a community museum exploring the history of the blues, Baptist Town, and African-American culture in the Delta.



Continue on to the nearby town of Money, where the first marker on the Mississippi Freedom Trail was placed at the remains of **Bryant's Grocery**, the site associated with the murder of Black teenager Emmett Till. Today the site has almost crumbled to the ground from neglect, but still remains a historic location of the Civil Rights Movement.

Make a stop in Sumner at the **Emmett Till Interpretive Center** which tells the story of the Emmett Till tragedy and points a way towards racial healing through arts and story-telling. Meet with staff member **Benjamin Saulsberry** and learn about the apology resolution written by the community.

Enjoy dinner at Sumner Grille before continuing on to Little Rock and the **Burgundy Hotel**. **B,L,D**



## MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

### April 27, Wednesday

This morning visit **Little Rock High School**, now Central High School National Historic Site, a national emblem of the often violent struggle over school desegregation. The crisis here forced the nation to enforce African-American civil rights in the face of massive southern defiance during the years following the Brown v. Board of Education decision, a major triumph of the movement. Tour the school and then meet with **Elizabeth Eckord**, one of the nine African-American students who broke the color barrier at Central High in 1957.

Continue on to the **William J. Clinton Presidential Center**, housed in a gleaming modern space overlooking the Arkansas River. The center supports the Clinton library, foundation, and school, as well as a mock Oval Office as it looked during his administration.

Enjoy a lovely lunch at a beautiful restaurant, located at the presidential center.

After lunch, walk to the Anne Frank exhibit located right outside the Center, before driving to Memphis and checking into the **Hu Hotel**.

Enjoy dinner this evening at Rendezvous. **B,L,D**



## MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

### April 28, Thursday

We begin the morning at the Lorraine Motel, now the home of the **National Civil Rights Museum**. Martin Luther King Jr. stayed at the motel on April 4, 1968 in Room 306. When he stepped out to talk to friends in the parking lot below, a bullet struck him in the neck, taking his life instantly.

Walk across the street to the Legacy Building, the boarding house from where the assassin's shot was allegedly fired, which examines the investigation of the assassination, the case against James Earl Ray, and ensuing conspiracy theories.

Enjoy lunch at Four Ways Soul Food Restaurant, one of the oldest soul food restaurants in Memphis whose regulars included Martin Luther King Jr., Isaac Hayes, and Aretha Franklin.

This afternoon we will focus on Memphis' music history with a visit to the **Stax Museum of American Soul** which provides insights to the civil rights story set within the Memphis music scene. A fascinating exhibit traces the history of the blues and its impact on American music.

Drive a few miles north to visit the **Slave Haven Underground Railway House**, where dark cellars, hidden passageways, and trap doors were used by runaway slaves attempting to flee north to freedom. Built by abolitionist and German immigrant Jacob Burkle, this modest home tells the story of the Memphis slave trade and the Underground Railroad.

Enjoy dinner this evening at leisure. **B,L**



## MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

### April 29, Friday

This morning, depart Memphis and drive to Birmingham. Visit the **16th Street Baptist Church**, where a bomb killed four young girls as they prepared to sing in their choir on September 15, 1963. The incident caused national outrage and gave rise to a momentum that ensured the passage of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Meet with **Carolyn McKinstry**, who was 14 and inside the church when the bomb exploded. Here she will share with us her story of the day of the bombing and the work she has dedicated her life to since.

Across the Street is the historic **Kelly Ingram Park**, site of civil rights rallies, demonstrations, and confrontations in the 1960s. Sculptures throughout the park provide vivid depictions of police dog and fire hose assaults on demonstrators, many of them children.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, where we will be joined by Carolyn McKinstry.



Drive to Selma and stop outside of the **Brown Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church**, the site of Malcolm X's address in support of voting rights, Dr. King's eulogy for Jimmie Lee Jackson, and Jackson's funeral.

Visit the **Selma Interpretive Center**, located at the foot of the bridge, where armed forces attacked the first wave of unarmed marchers during Bloody Sunday. Meet with **Annie Pearl Avery**, a foot soldier, whose civil rights work spans decades.

Walk across the street to visit the **Edmund Pettus Bridge**, where we will walk two-by-two in memory of those who were beaten seeking the right to vote.

Continue along the 54 miles known as the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail. This route helped change American history as a series of marches brought the conflicts of the voting rights movement into homes across the country.

Arrive in Montgomery and check into the **Renaissance Montgomery Hotel**.

Enjoy dinner this evening at leisure. **B,L**

## **MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA** **April 30, Saturday**

Begin the day with a visit to the **Dexter Parsonage Museum**, the house in which Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was living in when it was bombed on January 30, 1956. It was that day that Dr. King made the personal commitment to non-violence.

Continue on to **Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration**. Created by the Equal Justice Initiative, the museum looks into the history of racial injustice and the narratives that have sustained injustice across generations. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

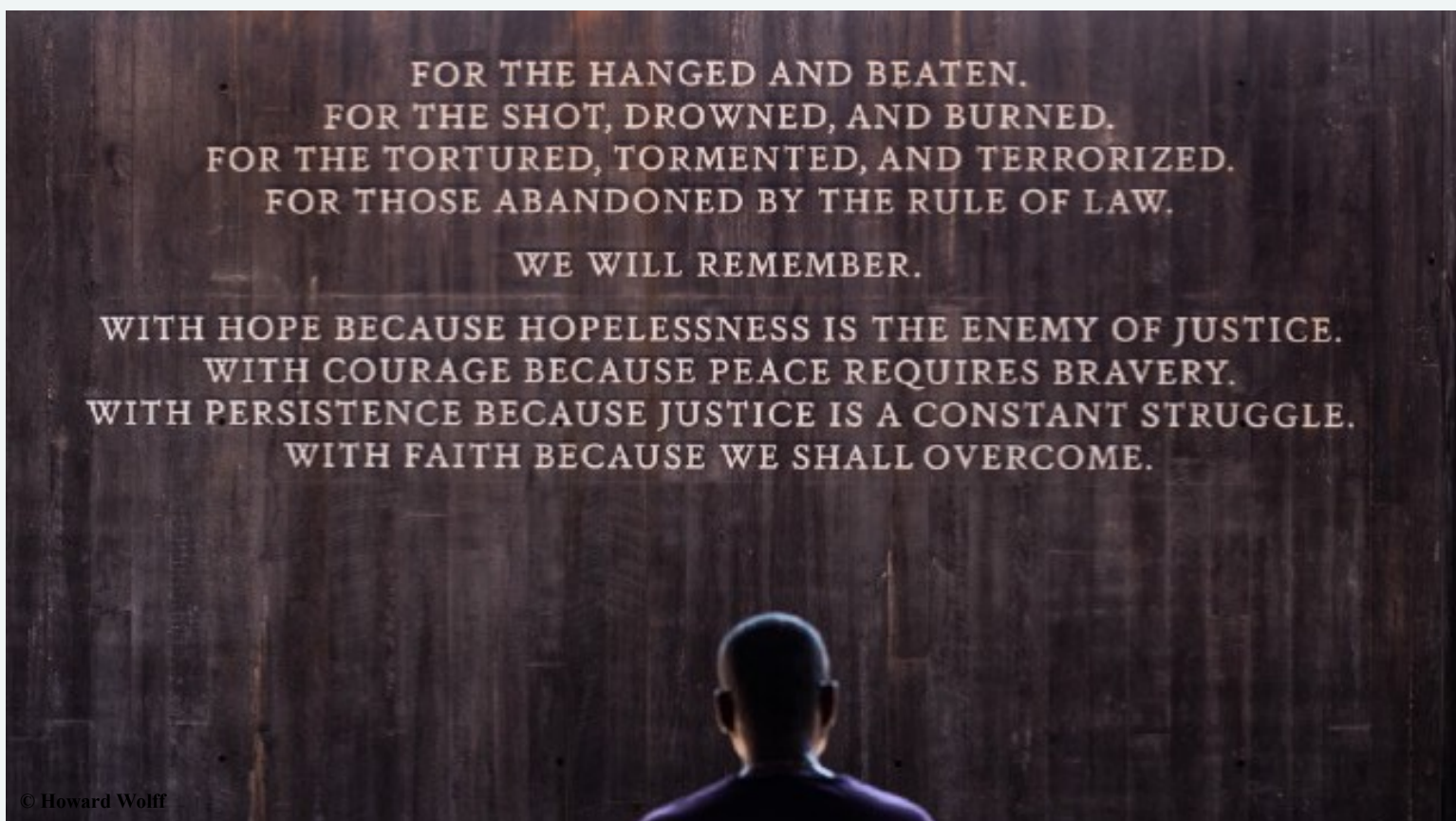
After lunch, visit the recently opened **Equal Justice Initiative's National Memorial for Peace and Justice**. This is the nation's first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved Blacks terrorized by lynching, African-Americans humiliated by racial segregation and Jim Crow, and people of color burdened with contemporary presumptions of guilt and police violence. The Memorial for Peace and Justice was conceived with the hope of creating a sober, meaningful site where people can gather and reflect on America's history of racial inequality.

End the day with a briefing by staff members of the **Equal Justice Initiative**, an organization committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. The briefing will take place in the new Visitor Center, which is located across the street from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice.

Enjoy a farewell dinner at Central Restaurant. **B,L,D**

## **RETURN** **May 1, Sunday**

Independent departures from Montgomery this morning. **B**





## TOUR LECTURER

**Kyle T. Mays, Ph.D.**, is a public intellectual, writer, and teacher. He is an Assistant Professor of African American Studies, American Indian Studies, and History at UCLA. Kyle earned his Ph.D. in U.S. History from the Department of History at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He is the author of *Hip Hop Beats, Indigenous Rhymes: Modernity and Hip Hop in Indigenous North America* (SUNY Press, 2018). Kyle has a forthcoming book titled *An Afro-Indigenous History of the United States* (Beacon Press, forthcoming 2021). This book explores how anti Blackness and settler colonialism have been central to the United States' development from the foundations of the United States until the present. It also explores the links between Indigenous sovereignty and Black (American) belonging in U.S. history. His research interests include urban history, U.S. Afro-Indigenous history, and contemporary popular culture.

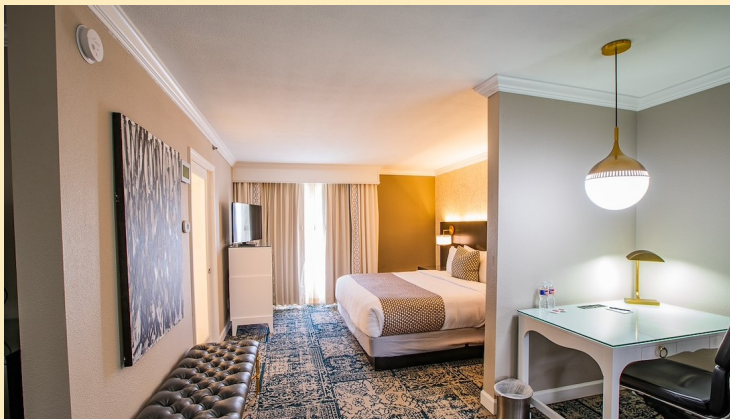
## Accommodations



Westin Jackson



Hu, Hotel Memphis



Burgundy Hotel, Little Rock



Renaissance Montgomery Hotel & Spa

## Pricing:

**Tour Price: \$3,995 per person, double occupancy**

**Single Supplement: \$980 (Limited availability)**

## Terms, Conditions, and Inclusions:

### Reservations and Payments:

Reservations for this tour require a deposit of \$500 per person and an application form signed by the participant. Final payment is due 45 days prior to departure, by March 8, 2022 and must be paid by check.

### Tour Price Includes:

*Hotel Accommodations:* Accommodations in hotels as outlined in the itinerary based on double occupancy, prices listed are based on two persons sharing a twin room. Distant Horizons reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in the brochure when necessary. Distant Horizons will do all possible for single participants to satisfy requests to share rooms. On occasions when it is not possible, the single room supplement will apply. If Distant Horizons assigns you a roommate and your roommate cancels or changes their mind about sharing a room, you will be liable for the single room supplement.

*Meals:* American breakfast (B), lunches (L) and dinners (D) are included as specified in the itinerary. One soft drink is included with lunch and one with dinner.

*All Land Travel Listed:* Including educational program of lectures and discussions, entrance fees to monuments, welcome and farewell receptions include beer and wine, bottled water kept on the bus, transportation in an air conditioned motor coach, the services of a Distant Horizons tour manager, special activities as quoted in the itinerary, and gratuities to all local guides, tour manager, driver, and wait staff for included meals.

*Tour cost* is based on rates of currency exchange at time of printing (June 2020) and is subject to change with or without previous notice. If there is a price increase prior to the day of departure in the basic costs, such increases may be passed on to the participant. If bookings fall below the minimum required, passengers will be advised of additional costs for that departure date. The minimum group size of this departure is 15 paying participants, should the number of participants fall below this number, a small group surcharge and/or revised staffing will apply. Please wait for written confirmation from Distant Horizons before purchasing any airfare.

### Tour Price Does Not Include:

Air service to Jackson, MS and from Montgomery, AL, transfers to and from airport to hotel, meals not specified in the itinerary, alcoholic drinks at included meals except for welcome and farewell receptions, drinks other than soft drink at meals, chambermaid gratuities, personal items such as laundry, email, fax or telephone calls, liquor, room service, luggage charges, and private trip insurance.

### Cancellations:

Distant Horizons and the UCLA Alumni Association reserve the right to cancel the tour prior to departure for any reason, including insufficient number of participants, and to decline to accept or retain any person as a participant at any time. Should this happen, refunds will be made without obligation, although we cannot be held responsible for any additional costs already incurred by participants. If a participant cancels, the following refunds will be available upon written notice of cancellation to Distant Horizons:

Notice more than 45 days prior to departure: a full refund of your deposit

Notice on or between 45 days and 30 days prior to departure: a refund less 50% of trip price per person.

No refund shall be issued if cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to departure date.

No refunds shall be issued after the tour has commenced. No refunds shall be issued for occasional missed meals, sightseeing tours or any unused services.



## Terms, Conditions, and Inclusions (continued):

### **Responsibility:**

The liability of the UCLA Alumni Association as sponsor, and Distant Horizons as tour operator, is strictly limited. Distant Horizons and the UCLA Alumni Association act only in the capacity of agents for the hotels, airlines, bus companies, railroads, ship lines or owners or contractors providing accommodations, transportation or other services. As a result, all coupons, receipts or tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the supplier. By acceptance of tour membership, the participant agrees that neither Distant Horizons nor UCLA Alumni Association nor any of their subsidiaries shall become liable or responsible for personal injury, damage to persons or property, loss, delay or irregularity caused by persons not controlled by it, such as (without limitation) airlines, bus and shipping companies, suppliers of accommodations or other services, or resulting from any acts of God, defects in vehicles, strikes, wars, whether declared or otherwise, civil disturbances, medical or customs regulations, acts of terrorism, epidemics or government restrictions. Distant Horizons and UCLA Alumni Association cannot be held responsible for unfavorable weather or closure of access routes due to bad weather conditions. Distant Horizons and UCLA Alumni Association cannot be held responsible if the tour lecturer or leader cancels, and passengers will be advised of a comparable replacement should time permit. Distant Horizons and UCLA Alumni Association are not responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the participant as a result of the above mentioned causes.

**Assumption of Risks:** Participation in this elective trip carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injury. The specific risks vary from one activity to another, but the risks range from 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, and sprains, to 2) major injuries such as eye injury, joint or bone injuries, heart attacks, and concussions, to 3) catastrophic injuries such as paralysis and death.

**Indemnification and Hold Harmless:** Travelers also agree to indemnify and hold the UCLA Alumni Association and Distant Horizons harmless from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities, including attorney's fees, arising out of his/her involvement in this activity, and to reimburse it for any such expenses incurred.

Tour participant acknowledges receipt of a copy of these terms and conditions and signifies acceptance of, and consents to, all of the terms and conditions set forth herein, on behalf of any participants they may act for and for themselves when registering for, or making payments on, this tour.

### **General Information:**

Please note that participants must be in good physical condition and be able to walk for long distances over uneven surfaces and up and down stairs without problems.

*Distant Horizons is a California Seller of Travel (CST #2046776-40) and a participant in the California Travel Restitution Fund. Information regarding the rights of California residents to make a claim may be found at [tcrinfo.org](http://tcrinfo.org). California law requires certain sellers of travel to have a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account.*

Name as it appears on your driver's license/identification card

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  M  F

Name as it appears on your driver's license/identification card

\_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  M  F

Preferred name for name tags \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_  Home  Business

**UCLA Alumni Travel is an advantage reserved for UCLA Alumni Association sustaining donors.\* Please select an option below.**

- I am currently a sustaining donor
- I have enclosed a check made payable to the **UCLA Foundation** for:
  - \$100

\* Sustaining donors include Gold, Life and Blue Members as well as anyone that has made a qualifying donation of \$100 or more to the UCLA Alumni Association Support fund in the past year.

**Room Arrangements**

- I would like to share a room with \_\_\_\_\_
- I would like to request a single room at an additional \$980 (pending availability)
- I would like to share my room; please try to find me a roommate (shares cannot be guaranteed)

**Reservation Deposit**, a deposit of \$500 is required for each participant

- I have enclosed a deposit of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make checks payable to **Distant Horizons**.)
- I want to reserve my place with a credit card deposit.

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my:  MasterCard  Visa

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (as it appears on your card) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations are subject to availability and processed on a first come, first served basis.  
Reservations to be paid in full 45 days prior to departure, March 8, 2022. **Final payments must be made by check only.**

I/We have read the tour conditions and responsibility clause and agree to all therein (all participants must sign).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL, FAX OR EMAIL RESERVATION FORM TO:**  
Distant Horizons / 350 Elm Avenue, Long Beach, 90802  
Fax: 310-209-4271 · Email: travel@alumni.ucla.edu