

**UCLA** Alumni

# The Great American Total Solar Eclipse

APRIL 5–9, 2024 • TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

WITH

Jean-Luc Margot

PROFESSOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF  
EARTH, PLANETARY, AND SPACE SCIENCES AT UCLA





# DEAR UCLA ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Join UCLA Alumni Travel to view a total solar eclipse in 2024 at one of the premier viewing locations in the country, the Hill Country of central Texas. On April 8, 2024, the path of totality will cut through the United States from Texas to Maine plunging a 124-mile-wide swath of land into night-like darkness. The sight of the sun's ethereal corona, the 360-degree sunset, approximate four minutes of totality, and the collective awe expected across our continent are just a few of the reasons astronomers and eclipse chasers are looking forward with great anticipation to the 2024 North American total solar eclipse.

The weather prospects are excellent in the Texas Hill Country and UCLA Alumni Travel has found an exclusive viewing site that will maximize your enjoyment of this eclipse and your comfort and convenience. Accompanying us will be Professor Jean-Luc Margot, a planetary astronomer who teaches at the Department of Earth, Planetary, and Space Sciences at UCLA. Professor Margot has served as the faculty host on one previous UCLA total eclipse tour and will be providing lectures and discussions during our tour on solar eclipses and astronomy.

Gather in Austin, Texas overlooking Lady Bird Lake for a welcome dinner and orientation. The next morning head out to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at the University of Texas at Austin, home to more than 900 species of native plants in both garden and natural settings. Enjoy a docent-led tour of the center and lecture on the architecture of the wildflower center and Lady Bird Johnson's environmental legacy. Journey on the scenic Hill Country when bluebonnets will be in full bloom. Arrive in time for cocktails and a dinner reception at Tapatio Springs located on 220 acres in the Hill Country. The next morning after a lecture we'll head out to an authentic Texas Ranch, tucked away in the corner of Bulverde, Texas for a true taste of Texas and its Western Heritage. Experience a private rodeo that includes a Texas longhorn cattle entrance, an award-winning drill team, and barrel racing. Enjoy a catered Texas barbecue lunch. Afterward, tour the highlights of San Antonio including a VIP tour of the Alamo, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and a chartered cruise on a river barge. The next day after a morning lecture, prepare for the total solar eclipse at our private viewing site located in the path of the totality for optimal viewing conditions for this rare and exciting astronomical event.

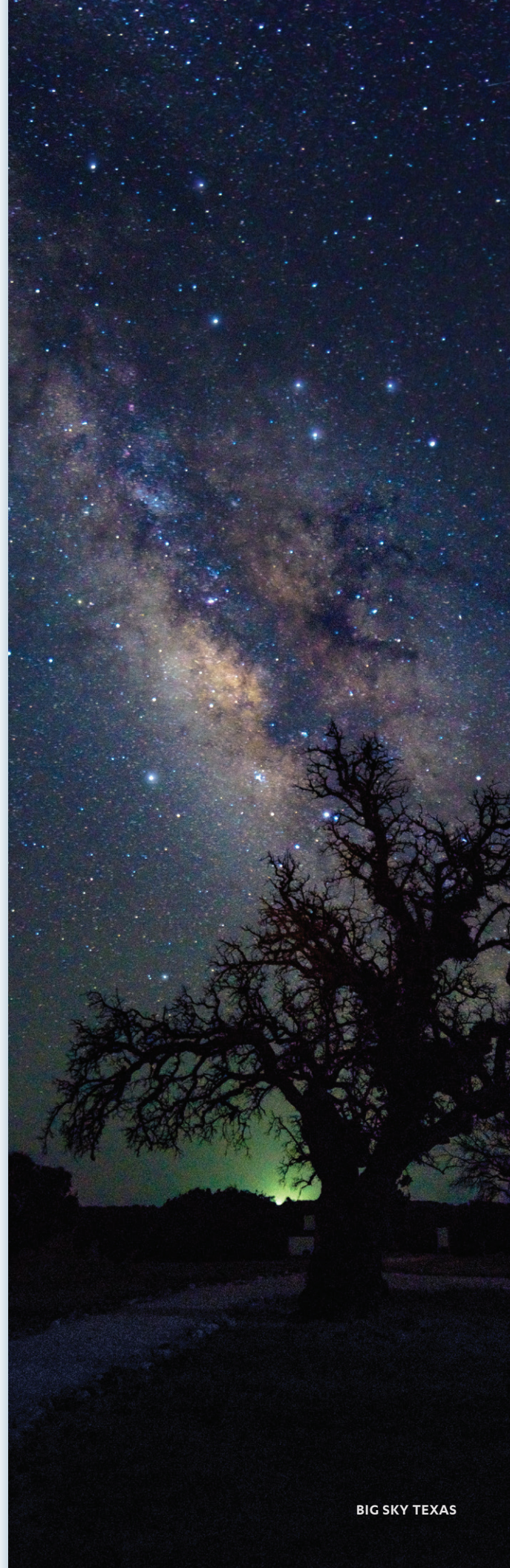
The next total solar eclipse will not cross the United States until 2044, so make the most of your time in totality by securing your space on this unique tour to witness a spectacular total solar eclipse in the scenic Texas Hill Country with fellow UCLA alumni and friends.

Regards from Westwood,



Christel Aragon  
Director, Alumni Travel

For information, contact us at **310-206-0613** or [travel@alumni.ucla.edu](mailto:travel@alumni.ucla.edu)







## UCLA STUDY LEADER

**DR. JEAN-LUC MARGOT** is a planetary astronomer and UCLA professor who conducts research on the properties of planetary bodies with a variety of spacecraft and telescopes. He has discovered binary asteroids, revealed that Mercury has a liquid core, and demonstrated that Venus experiences measurable changes in its length of day. He leads the UCLA SETI Group and has collaborated with more than 100 UCLA students, alumni, and friends in the search for life in the universe. Margot was the faculty host for UCLA Alumni Association's previous solar eclipse trip to Chile in 2019, and he observed an annular solar eclipse in Japan in 2012 and the Venus transits in 2004 and 2008.



LONGHORN CATTLE



TAPATIO SPRINGS RESORT



TEXAS

## ITINERARY

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

### AUSTIN, TEXAS

Fly to Austin, Texas, and transfer to our hotel overlooking Lady Bird Lake with close access to downtown Austin. Gather this evening for an orientation and welcome dinner.

HYATT REGENCY HOTEL D

SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2024

### AUSTIN / BOERNE

This morning immerse yourself in the spectacular beauty and elegance of the University of Texas at Austin Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, the official botanic garden and arboretum of Texas. The center, founded in 1982 with the assistance of Texas' beloved former first lady and actress Helen Hayes, is located on 248 acres and has an impressive display of over 900 species of wildflowers, plants, and trees that grow in Texas, with an emphasis on Hill Country flora. The mission of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center is "to increase the sustainable use and conservation of native wildflowers, plants, and landscapes." We will have a lecture from Dr. Jean Luc-Margot concerning the total solar eclipse followed by a briefing on the Wildflower Center's and Lady Bird Johnson's role in conserving Texas wildflowers. After touring the Wildflower Center we'll enjoy a private catered lunch in the Center's Great Hall overlooking flowering meadows. We'll continue our journey to the Texas Hill Country along highways lined with stunning springtime bluebonnets and other wildflowers that stretch for miles. Gather for welcome cocktails and dinner at our Hill Country accommodations and eclipse site.

TAPATIO SPRINGS HILL COUNTRY RESORT B, L, D

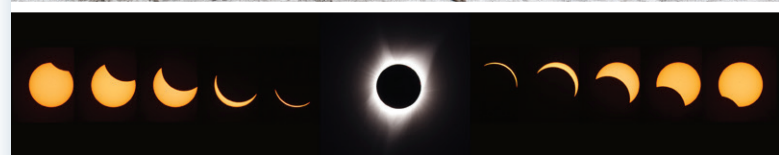
SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

### BOERNE / SAN ANTONIO

Depart for an authentic Texas Ranch tucked away in the corner of Bulverde, Texas to provide a true taste of Texas and its Western heritage. Attend a private rodeo demonstration with the grand entry of Texas Longhorns as well as barrel racing and an award-winning Texas Drill team performing on horses. Enjoy a catered Texas barbecue lunch with a full bar. After lunch head to San Antonio for a city tour of its landmarks and cultural hotspots. Take a VIP tour of the Alamo to see the UNESCO World Heritage Site and learn of the heroic battle of 1836 for Texas' independence from Mexico. After touring the Alamo, embark on a privately chartered river barge along San Antonio's famous riverwalk. Finally, experience firsthand some of San Antonio's Hispanic heritage and the flavors of old Mexico at El Mercado. After exploring Mexican artifacts, jewelry, and other crafts, gather for dinner at a local restaurant before we head back to Boerne to prepare for the eclipse. TAPATIO SPRINGS HILL COUNTRY RESORT B, L, D



BLUEBONNET WILDFLOWERS





**MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2024**

## **BOERNE (Total Solar Eclipse)**

This morning our study leader will walk us through the rare total eclipse we will be seeing. Enjoy a buffet lunch at our private eclipse site. The partial eclipse will begin around 12:41 PM and culminate with the beginning of the Full or Total Solar Eclipse at 1:32.47 PM. Once the celestial excitement abates imbibe in a celebratory glass of champagne followed by a festive farewell dinner. TAPATIO SPRINGS HILL COUNTRY RESORT B, L, D

**TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2024**

## **BOERNE / AUSTIN**

This morning after breakfast transfer to the Austin-Bergstrom International Airport for flights home. B

## **PRE-TRIP EXTENSION**

**APRIL 4-5, 2024**

### **AUSTIN, TEXAS TOUR**

Arrive a day early and discover Austin on a city tour that will give you a snapshot of Austin from its Capitol dome, the UT campus and downtown to its funky neighborhoods only a local would know about. This tour is jam-packed with history and information on the people, music, culture, and food of Austin. Lunch will be at one of Austin's iconic eateries. After lunch we'll head out to a local brewery for a tasting of some of Austin artisan beers. Includes lunch, transportation, tour guide, and one extra night at the Austin Hyatt Regency. Minimum of 10 passengers.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

### **HYATT REGENCY AUSTIN**

Located in downtown Austin on the shores of Lady Bird Lake, the Hyatt Regency Austin is a full-service hotel that offers cool, contemporary new guest rooms. Situated along the Hike & Bike trail, this luxury hotel is within walking distance to all of downtown Austin's major entertainment districts, and 7 miles from Austin Bergstrom International Airport. Take a five-minute walk to Congress Ave Bridge near sunset in the summer to catch Austin's famous bat show, featuring more than 1.5 million Mexican free-tailed bats. Austin Hyatt Regency has a seasonal outdoor swimming pool with a sundeck overlooking the lake. Free WiFi is available throughout the property.

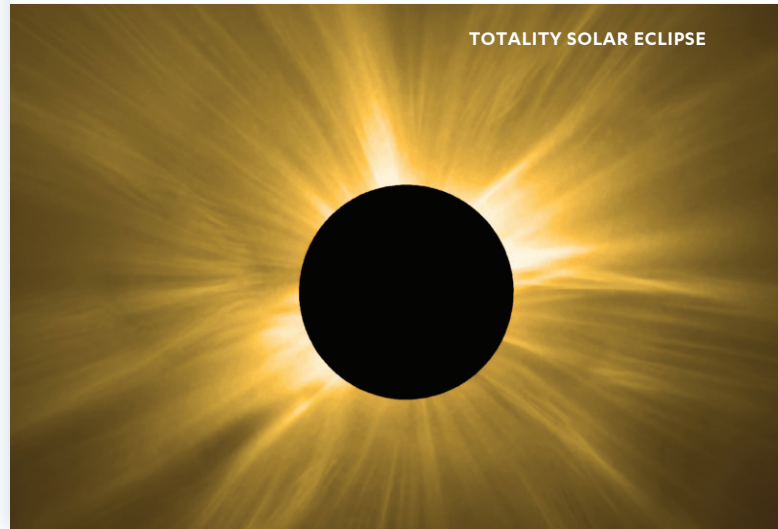
### **TAPATIO SPRINGS RESORT**

#### **BOERNE, TEXAS**

The Resort is nestled in the heart of the Hill Country on 220 acres among rolling hills, wildflowers, and limestone cliffs and features an 18-hole championship golf course, a driving range, a putting green, and a pro shop. A private balcony or patio with a view is featured in each guest room. Rooms feature complimentary bottled water and coffee/tea makers. A seating area, LED TV, refrigerator, coffee maker, and work desk are also provided. Guests can enjoy many recreational activities on the grounds, including golf, frisbee golf, golf lessons, hiking trails, two outdoor pools, fire pits, and a full-service spa. Other amenities include restaurants, a fitness center, and a bar/lounge. Free wi-fi in all the rooms.



**ECLIPSE VIEWING**



**TOTALITY SOLAR ECLIPSE**



**HYATT AUSTIN**



**TAPATIO SPRINGS RESORT**



## WHAT TO EXPECT

This expedition is designed for UCLA alumni and friends who are interested in learning and experiencing a total solar eclipse as well as the flora and fauna of the Texas Hill Country and the history and culture of San Antonio, Texas. The pace of walks will be leisurely. Average temperatures in Austin and the Texas Hill Country will be approximately between 80° and 59° F. The accommodations and some excursions in this departure will be shared with the Harvard Alumni Association. UCLA Alumni Association will have its own tour director, buses, lecture space, and eclipse viewing site. Since some travel will be in remote areas, everyone must be flexible concerning time schedules, weather, and dust. To enjoy this trip, a spirit of adventure and anticipation and the desire to explore spectacular natural areas as well as urban areas are a must. There are a couple of relatively long drives in the Texas Hill Country (approximately 2 and a half hours), which are necessary for the chance to explore the superb wildflowers of Texas and for a visit to a Texas Ranch. Travel is by regularly scheduled jet aircraft, boat (for some optional day excursions), and motorcoach. Travel is by boat (on the San Antonio river cruise) and by motorcoach.

### PROGRAM NOTE:

The Texas Hill Country will be a prime location to experience the Great American Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. We will provide an optimal viewing location to experience this phenomenon. Please keep in mind that because viewing the total solar eclipse will be weather dependent, there is always a chance that passengers will not be able to view it or view it only for a short period of time. Neither Royal Adventures nor the UCLA Alumni Association makes any guarantees as to the viewing of the total solar eclipse.

## COSTS

### PROGRAM COST INCLUDES

Study leader's lectures and discussions • Accommodations and meals as specified in the itinerary • Welcome dinner in Austin • Professional Tour Director • Lecture and docent-led tours at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center • Cocktail reception and wine or beer included with all dinners at Tapatio Springs • Airport transfers for group flights • Tour and Rodeo at Texas Ranch • VIP Alamo Tour and Private chartered river barge in San Antonio • Entrance fees • Eclipse viewing site • Eclipse viewing glasses • Baggage handling • Pre-departure information.

**PROGRAM COST DOES NOT INCLUDE** Domestic Airfare to and from Austin • Meals not specified in the itinerary • Personal items such as laundry, e-mail, wi-fi or telephone calls • Liquor • Room service • Private transfers • Golfing Fees • Medical expenses • COVID-19 testing and immunizations or quarantine expenses • Travel insurance • Deviations from the scheduled tour.

**LAND PROGRAM COST** (Per person, double occupancy) ..... \$5,690

**SINGLE OCCUPANCY** (Limited availability) ..... \$8,080

**Limited Triple & Quad Occupancy Available**, Please call for a quote

**AUSTIN CITY TOUR** Pre-Trip Extension ..... \$585

(Per person, double occupancy. Rates are based on a minimum of 10 guests.)

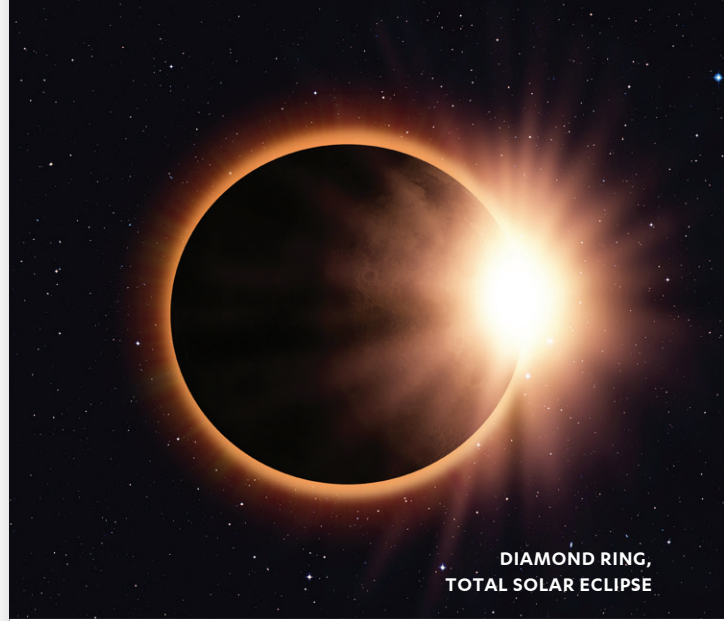
Single occupancy ..... \$765

### SAMPLE COACH AIRFARE

Los Angeles to Austin roundtrip ..... \$330

(As of May 2022 and subject to change)

**AIR ARRANGEMENTS** Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. is the preferred provider for airline arrangements for this trip and can help with domestic air arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 800-447-3560. You are welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.



DIAMOND RING,  
TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE



PREVIOUS UCLA  
ECLIPSE TRAVELERS



ALAMO, SAN ANTONIO



TAPATIO SPRINGS RESORT



# GENERAL INFORMATION

**RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENT:** To reserve your space on this program, a \$1,000 deposit is required per person plus a \$200 deposit for the pre-trip Austin extension, if applicable. A second deposit of \$1,500 per passenger will be due on or before March 7, 2023 by check only. Please fill out and mail, e-mail, or fax the registration form. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due December 7, 2023, and must be paid by check. Royal Adventures handles all invoicing. CST #2009579-40

**CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Cancellations must be received in writing by the UCLA Alumni Association from the participant. Cancellations within 14 days of booking: full refund; cancellations received up to 120 days prior to departure will be assessed a cancellation fee equal to the full amount of deposits paid. Cancellations received within 120 days prior to departure are subject to a 100% penalty of all deposits and payments, regardless of the booking date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

**INSURANCE:** We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. Information regarding insurance will be provided by the UCLA Alumni Association upon confirmation. Neither the UCLA Alumni Association nor Royal Adventures accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour. "Cancel for Any Reason" insurance coverage must be purchased within 14 days following the date of trip confirmation.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Royal Adventures (CST #2009579-40), its owners and employees, act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant, and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services, and transportation are offered or provided, and the UCLA Alumni Association and Royal Adventures and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability therefor. The UCLA Alumni Association and Royal Adventures assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, epidemics, pandemics, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, quarantine, force majeure, animal or insect bites, or other such causes. The UCLA Alumni Association and Royal Adventures reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour participants. The UCLA Alumni Association and/or Royal Adventures shall not be deemed to be in

breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, and shall not provide any refund, by reason of delay in performance, or by non-performance, of any of our obligations hereunder to the extent that any such delay or non-performance is due to any Force Majeure Event. A Force Majeure Event, in relation to this tour, shall mean any circumstances beyond our control, including, but without limitation, acts of God, explosion, flood, forceful wind, fire or accident, war or threat of war declared or undeclared, acts of terrorism, sabotage, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil disturbance, sickness, epidemics, pandemics, quarantines, government intervention or other unforeseeable events. Limitations on travel arising from the COVID-19 pandemic shall be considered a Force Majeure Event. If this tour is affected by a Force Majeure Event, the UCLA Alumni Association and Royal Adventures shall be entitled to, and may in their sole and absolute discretion, vary, cancel or postpone any itinerary or arrangement in relation to this trip. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, security surcharge or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Neither the UCLA Alumni Association nor Royal Adventures accepts the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. I will not hold Royal Adventures or UCLA Alumni Association and/or its employees or agents responsible for any expense or loss caused by my/our failure to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Neither Royal Adventures nor UCLA Alumni Association make any guarantees as to the viewing of the total solar eclipse. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

**DISCLAIMER:** Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented in this publication. Neither the UCLA Alumni Association nor Royal Adventures is responsible for errors in or damages resulting from the use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this brochure is subject to change.

**QUESTIONS:** Please contact UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613 or [travel@alumni.ucla.edu](mailto:travel@alumni.ucla.edu) for details.

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## UCLA Alumni RESERVATION FORM

# Total Solar Eclipse

APRIL 5-9, 2024 • TEXAS HILL COUNTRY



SCAN HERE TO  
REGISTER ONLINE

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person, plus \$200 for the Pre-Trip Austin tour extension) for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) on [The Great American Total Solar Eclipse](#) departing April 5, 2024. I/We understand that a second deposit of \$1,500 per person will be due March 7, 2023 by check, and that final payment by check only is due December 7, 2023.

Scan the QR code above to register online, OR

Please authorize credit card payment or make a check payable to *Royal Adventures*, and send, along with completed reservation form, to: ROYAL ADVENTURES, 9 Crow Canyon Court, Suite 205, San Ramon, CA 94583. Or contact UCLA Alumni Travel at 310-206-0613; fax 310-209-4271; or e-mail [travel@alumni.ucla.edu](mailto:travel@alumni.ucla.edu).

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NAME AS ON ID DOCUMENTS	DATE OF BIRTH
<input type="checkbox"/> MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE	
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ADDRESS	
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE	
HOME PHONE	CELL PHONE
E-MAIL(S)	
BADGE NAME(S)	

### PRE-TRIP EXTENSION

☐ I/We will join the optional pre-trip Austin City Tour, April 4-5, 2024.

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

☐ Pay by check made out to "Royal Adventures"

☐ Please charge the deposit of \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$1,000 per person + \$200 for the pre-trip extension, if applicable) to: ☐ AMEX ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card

CARD #	
EXP. DATE	SEC. CODE

### ACCOMMODATIONS

☐ I will share a room with \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I request a single room (*limited availability*)

**ROOM PREFERENCE** (*subject to availability*) ☐ One Bed (King) ☐ Two Beds (Double/Queen)

### FLIGHTS

☐ I/We will take care of my/our own domestic flights.

☐ Please book my/our air from \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Economy ☐ Business

I/We have carefully read the Program Costs, General Information and Responsibility sections of this brochure and agree to their terms on behalf of myself and of my party named above.

SIGNATURE	DATE
SIGNATURE	DATE

**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 made a \$100 donation at [travel.alumni.ucla.edu/donate](http://travel.alumni.ucla.edu/donate).

\*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.



**UCLA**

**Alumni**

# The Great American Total Solar Eclipse

APRIL 5–9, 2024  
TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

WITH

Jean-Luc Margot

PROFESSOR; DEPARTMENT OF EARTH,  
PLANETARY, AND SPACE SCIENCES AT UCLA

## HIGHLIGHTS

**WITNESS** the spectacular 2024 Total Solar Eclipse at a private viewing site in the Texas Hill Country in the path of totality.

**EXPLORE** the Lady Bird Johnson Wildlife Center, the Botanic Garden of Texas on a docent-led tour.

**TRAVEL** to an authentic Texas Ranch to observe a Texas Rodeo demonstration.

**EXPERIENCE** the "must-sees" of San Antonio including a VIP tour of the Alamo and the El Mercado area.

**EMBARK** a private river barge for a scenic tour of San Antonio's Riverwalk.

**ENJOY** a Texas Barbecue special catered lunch.

**RELAX** at the 220-acre Tapatio Springs Hill Country Resort including a pool, hiking trails, spa, and an award-winning 18-hole golf course.

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

