



## **15 WONDERS FOR WANDERLUSTS: MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK UNVEILS FAVORITE 15 FOR '15**

*Oman, Eastern Greenland, Cuba and Iran Are Among the Must-Visit Destinations and Bucket List-Worthy Adventures to Experience in the Year Ahead*

**EMERYVILLE, CALIF. (December 24, 2014)** – The authority and pioneer of adventure travel, [Mountain Travel Sobek](#) (MTS), has unveiled its list of **15 Wonders for Wanderlusts in 2015**, a selection of awe-inspiring trips to the world's most unexpected, remote and sacred destinations. Selected from its more than 150 premier itineraries, Mountain Travel Sobek's 15 bucket list-worthy journeys next year will provide discerning travelers and adventurers' unparalleled access and authentic exploration to the world's most remarkable destinations, many of which have limited access or have long been closed off to independent travelers. The 15 for '15 timely and noteworthy trips will explore:

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| <b>1. Oman's</b> dunes and coastline                  | <b>9. Pacific Coast Trail</b> 146 mile peaks        |
| <b>2. Eastern Greenland's</b> hidden fjords via kayak | <b>10.</b> Spiritual heartland of <b>Tibet</b>      |
| <b>3. Cuba's</b> culture and history                  | <b>11.</b> Ancient ruins of <b>Turkey</b>           |
| <b>4. Iran's</b> Silk Road                            | <b>12. England</b> from coast-to-coast              |
| <b>5.</b> Off-the-beaten path regions of <b>Laos</b>  | <b>13. Bhutan's</b> spectacular festivals           |
| <b>6.</b> Undiscovered <b>Myanmar</b>                 | <b>14. Galapagos</b> and iconic <b>Machu Picchu</b> |
| <b>7. Madagascar's</b> natural wonders                | <b>15. Japan's</b> imperial Kyoto and modern Tokyo  |
| <b>8. Western Sweden's</b> remote islands             |   |

*The full 2015 catalog can be found [here](#) and additional descriptions can be found below.*

"To visit the handful of truly pristine destinations and to experience the contrast between traditional and immersing societies is rare and, in many cases, the opportunities to visit these places remain limited," said MTS President and CEO Kevin Callaghan. "Many destinations such as Eastern Greenland and Madagascar are truly still undiscovered and, while some of the world's most magical and intriguing destinations, such as Myanmar and Bhutan, are slowly becoming more accessible, we are immersed in the hidden corners and our customized adventures and tours are true journeys exploration."

As the first U.S. company to open the doors to commercial trekking in Nepal, MTS continues to write the book on adventure travel. Since their first trek to Everest 45 years ago, MTS has been the leader of expedition cruises in the Galapagos, adventure safaris, and many first descents of classic rivers including Ethiopia's Omo River and the Bio-Bio in Chile. MTS has deeply-rooted, long-term relationships in communities that it visits; for example, MTS has access to rare permits and private wildlife concessions in Africa and Alaska from years of exploring and solidifying relationships. A few of the memorable pioneering adventures include the first U.S. trek to Morocco's Atlas Mountains and the first Serengeti walking safari. Even today, MTS' on-the-ground experts in Tanzania recently received top honors as the Best Walking Safari Company for 2015 in the country.

The year-round calendar of trips range between three days to three weeks, offering profound and moving experiences that fit the interests, budgets and time of today's discerning traveler. Solo travelers can climb Kilimanjaro, multi-generational families can take over a private yacht tour in the Galapagos, and adventurers who want an extreme challenge can trek the Cordillera Blanca in Peru. For the "short-on-time" adventurer, MTS offers Express Excursions, a new series of shorter trips for those who want to experience parts of the world in just a few days.

#### **MOUNTAIN TRAVEL SOBEK'S 15 FOR '15**

(In alphabetical order by destination)

**Ancient Monuments & Cultures of Myanmar:** *In this discovery of Myanmar, travelers will explore one of the last unspoiled, exotic areas of the world on this adventure. This immersive experience offers a glimpse of cultures that resonate with traditions hundreds of years old.*

**Cruise the Galapagos:** *In a journey that visits Machu Picchu and Galapagos, two of Latin America's crown jewels, travelers will enjoy guided tours stretching from Peru's ancient Inca cities of Cusco and Machu Picchu to the enchanting Galápagos Islands.*

**Cuba Cultural Discovery:** *A rare, authentic look at today's Cuba; discover everything that's special about the people of modern Cuba, uncovering a Cuba beyond its iconic colonial architecture and shimmering beaches.*

**Eastern Greenland Ice & Mountains:** *An authentic experience, this journey explores one of the world's last frontiers – an isolated wilderness of granite and ice found only in Greenland. In this striking landscape, reachable only by boat, travelers will go where few others have ventured.*

**England Coast to Coast:** *An exploration of Ancient Britain, travelers will pass over the famous fells of the Lake District and through three national parks, verdant meadows, and storybook villages.*

**Festivals of Bhutan:** *A journey into the fascinating Bhutanese culture with insider access to Bhutan's spectacular festivals, including the Tsechu Festival, numerous monasteries, sacred temples and monuments.*

**Hidden Laos:** *A unique itinerary that visits the off-the-beaten path destinations within Laos from the south and northwest to the crown jewel of Luang Prabang.*

**Iran-Treasures of Persia:** *This discovery through Iran explores the culture and history of ancient and modern Persia with an expert guide as travelers wander through lively bazaars, travel on camel along the Silk Road and interact with the locals over dinner.*

**Madagascar Discovery:** *In this remarkable journey to Africa's best-kept secret, experience over 1,000 unique endemic animal species and pristine untouched rainforests, with special access to remote areas via private air charter.*

**Oman Explorer:** *Travelers will discover Oman's breathtaking mountains, dunes and coastline on this authentic Arabian experience.*

**Pacific Crest Trail:** *This exclusive expedition of the famous Pacific Crest Trail follows a mountain range full of startling peaks, verdant meadows and huge granite walls, where travelers will trek 146 miles along one of the most beautiful long-distance trails in the world.*

**Sweden: West Coast Hiking & Kayaking:** *A discovery of the idyllic islands and rugged fjords of Sweden's Bohuslän coast on an adventure that offers a mix of kayaking and hiking throughout the charming coastal landscape.*

**Tibet's Spiritual Heartland:** *An exploration of the spiritual heartland of Tibetan Buddhism and one of the few places where monks are free to observe their ancient traditions. Travelers witness the nomadic life of pilgrims and get an intimate glimpse into Tibetan life through an organized homestay.*

**Treasures of Turkey:** *This comprehensive itinerary journeys through history, exploring ancient sites and experiencing the epitome of East meets West in Turkey's culture, cuisine, markets, and mosaics.*

**Walking Japan-Village to Village:** *This itinerary begins in the old imperial city of Kyoto and ends in modern Tokyo, traveling by ways of temples, shrines, and hamlets, while taking in ethereal landscapes.*

The full 2015 trip catalog can be viewed [here](#). To book a trip, travelers can call MTS directly at 800-454-4149.

#### **About Mountain Travel Sobek**

Mountain Travel Sobek pioneered adventure travel 45 years ago and continues to introduce exceptional 'bucket list' experiences to the most exotic and sacred areas of the world. The company's founders led the first trek in the Himalayas quickly followed by the first sailing cruise to the Galápagos Islands. Today, Mountain Travel Sobek continues to write the book on adventure travel through its more than 150 group and private trips across all seven continents, that offer a mix of active adventures to suit the interests, budgets and time of the modern traveler. Whether it is eye-opening safari in Namibia, a trek to Machu Picchu or an exploration of the ancient kingdoms of Sudan, Mountain Travel Sobek continues to uphold its reputation for excellence, commitment to environmental preservation and never-ending passion for sharing the marvels of the planet. [www.mtsobek.com](http://www.mtsobek.com)

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