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EXPERIENCE MATTERS

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**Get Global Expeditions + World Monuments Fund**

## *A Journey to the Roof of the World*

Exploring Sacred Places of Ladakh & Delhi

July 7 – 16, 2008

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*Global Learning Across Borders (Global LAB) is pleased to invite you on this summer 2008 **Get Global Expeditions (GGEx)** journey to northern India in partnership with the prestigious **World Monuments Fund (WMF)**. This customized cultural heritage expedition will explore the monasteries, mosques, temples, and palaces that testify to this region's spirit. Designed specifically for adults and inspired by Global LAB's experiential education programs for students, this expedition will feature unparalleled WMF cultural and historic preservation insight in addition to exclusive introductions to fascinating people and places well off the typical tourist track.*

Ladakh, with the awe-inspiring, serrated Himalayas on its brow, is referred to as "Little Tibet". It is one of the few regions in the world where Tibetan Buddhism and all its cultural forms have flourished without interruption since introduced more than 1000 years ago. This continuity and endurance of a religious tradition and the people that support it, set in a landscape of austere and formidable beauty, help make Ladakh one of the world's most magical destinations. As a result, the spiritual structures that adorn this tableau of rock and sky bear an authenticity and profoundness like no other. Our journey is timed to encounter the annual Tse-Chu festival in Hemis which celebrates the birthday of Padmasambhava (Guru Rimpoche), the founder of Tibetan Buddhism. Our exploration of Tibetan Buddhist antiquities will culminate in an exclusive visit to the remote WMF Citadel of Basgo project site. We will, of course, conclude our journey by experiencing that most perfect gem of Muslim art in India, the Taj Mahal as well as other Moghul architectural masterpieces in Old Delhi.

**Day 1 (Monday, July 7)**  
**USA/Delhi**

Arrive Delhi in the late evening. Transfer to the hotel. Enjoy an optional welcome cocktail reception this evening at the hotel.

**Day 2 (Tuesday, July 8)**  
**Delhi**

This morning will begin with an orientation to India. Then, tour the historic sites of Old and New Delhi, including the breathtaking Mughal architecture of the country's largest mosque, the Jama Masjid, and Shah Jahan's Red Fort, a World Heritage Site. Preview the site of the city's future heritage tourism route, which received a grant from the World Monuments Fund and American Express Partners in Preservation Program. After lunch, explore Delhi's bustling market and visit the impressive architecture of the city's Capital Hill.

**Day 3 (Wednesday, July 9)**  
**Delhi → Leh, Ladakh**

Depart for an early morning flight to Leh, the capital of the Himalayan region of Ladakh. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel. Following an introduction on Ladakhi history, culture, and religion, the day will be at leisure while travelers adjust to the region's high altitude. Optional guided tours will be available of the Leh Palace and the Old Town, a rare intact medieval city. Threatened by the region's changing weather patterns and growing tourism industry, Leh Old Town was listed on the 2008 World Monuments Watch.

**Day 4 (Thursday, July 10)**  
**Leh → Hemis Monastery → Leh**

The day will begin with a drive down the Indus River Gorge to Hemis Monastery, the largest and richest monastery in Ladakh. Observe the mystery and pageantry of the annual Tse-Chu festival commemorating the founder of Tibetan Buddhism. Resident Lamas perform spectacular masked dances and sacred plays as part of a ritual enactment of good triumphing evil. After lunch, explore the hermitage caves above the monastery and the festival's bazaar showcasing local craftsmanship. Return to Leh for the evening.

**Day 5 (Friday, July 11)****Leh → Thiksey Monastery → Leh**

This morning, explore the village of Sabu and attend an audience with the local oracle, known to summon the local deity and provide healings and blessings. After a drive along the Indus Gorge, visit Thiksey Monastery. Built in the traditional Tibetan style, Thiksey Monastery houses 10 shrines, one of which contains a statue of Maitreya, the future Buddha, nearly 50 feet tall. After lunch, visit other monasteries and palaces nearby before returning to Leh.

**Day 6 (Saturday, July 12)****Leh → Temisgam**

Depart Leh for a long drive to Lamayuru, one of the most spectacular and photogenic temples in Ladakh. The temple is attributed to Naropa, the 11<sup>th</sup>-century Buddhist saint who is said to have spent many years meditating in the cave connected to the prayer hall. Enjoy dinner in the nearby village of Temisgam before retiring for the evening at the Namra Hotel.

**Day 7 (Sunday, July 13)****Temisgam → Rizong → Alchi → Likir**

Returning south down the Indus Gorge, visit the legendary monasteries and temples of Rizong and Alchi. Built in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, Alchi Monastery is one of the oldest in Ladakh. The great translator Rinchen Zangpo commissioned 32 sculptors and artists from Kashmir and Tibet. Thus, the famed paintings of the monastery, while they depict traditional Tibetan themes, reflect a distinct Kashmiri style. Retire for the evening in the nearby village of Likir.

**Day 8 (Monday, July 14)****Likir → Basgo → Leh**

This morning, visit the Likir Monastery, founded in the 11<sup>th</sup> century by Tibetan monks. Visit a magnificent 82 foot gilded Maitreya statue and Likir's museum of monastic and royal relics. Continue after lunch to the village and Citadel of Basgo. Listed on the 2002 World Monuments Watch and site of a subsequent restoration project, the 400-year-old Basgo temples tower over barley fields and mud-brick homes of the traditional village below. Enjoy the hospitality of WMF's conservation partner, His Excellency Chogyal Jigmed Wangchuck Namgyal, who is a descendent of Ladakh's royal family, before returning to Leh for the evening.

**Day 9 (Tuesday, July 15)**  
**Leh**

The final day in Leh is open for individual exploration or guided sightseeing, shopping, and last tours of the Old Town and Leh Palace. The evening will conclude with a reception and dinner in Jigmed Namgyal's ancestral palace, before retiring early in preparation for tomorrow's return flight to Delhi.

**Day 10 (Wednesday, July 16)**  
**Leh → Delhi**

Arise for an early departure out of the Leh airport for another spectacular flight over the Himalayas to Delhi. Spend the afternoon shopping and sightseeing before our farewell dinner at one of the city's finer restaurants. Hotel rooms are reserved overnight for departures on July 17<sup>th</sup>, though you may wish to depart on a flight leaving late this evening.

**Tariff**

*All rates are per person, double occupancy*

\$7,600 per person ♦ Single supplement: \$1,850

Suggested additional donation to the World Monuments Fund: \$1,000

NOTE: Ladakh is a high altitude area; the city of Leh, its capital, is at 11,975 feet. Though it is not a trek per se, this tour will involve walking and climbing, and good health is essential. Accommodations will be the best available in the area, but basic by the standards of international hospitality.

## Terms & Conditions

Health: All participants must be in good health. This program involves traveling to high altitudes, walking over uneven surfaces, climbing in and out of various conveyances and climbing stairs at locations not handicapped accessible. Contact Global LAB for more details.

Insurance: For the protection of all Global LAB travel participants, trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended. Global LAB will provide recommendations for insurance providers upon request.

Changes in Itinerary & Costs: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of the World Monuments Fund and Global Learning Across Borders. All prices quoted are based upon prevailing airfares, fuel prices, and currency exchange rates in effect as of January 2008 and are subject to change.

Deposit: A deposit of \$1,000 per person per tour is required to reserve space on a Global LAB travel program. The deposit is applied toward the full cost of the program. Remaining balance of program cost is due 120 days prior to tour departure. For late tour reservations (made after the due date of final payment), payment in full is required.

Cancellation Policy: Tour cancellations must be made in writing and are effective from date of postmark or email time-stamp. Cancellations made 120 days or more prior to departure, a refund less an administrative fee of \$250 per person will be made. Cancellations made less than 120 days prior to departure are subject to full forfeiture of the tour price unless the tour is fully subscribed and your space is resold (in which case the \$250 handling fee will apply). Leaving the tour in progress, for any reason whatsoever, will not result in a refund, and no refunds will be made for any unused portions of the tour.

Global LAB reserves the right to cancel any tour due to insufficient enrollment that makes the tour economically unfeasible to operate or because of good-faith concerns with respect to the safety, health, or well-being of the participants. If Global LAB cancels a tour prior to departure, registrants will receive a full refund of all monies paid to Global LAB. Should Global LAB cancel a tour in progress, participants will receive a prorated refund based on the number of days not completed on the tour. Global LAB will not be responsible for any refund for nonrefundable airline tickets or for any airline tickets purchased by the passenger directly from an airline or travel agent.

# A JOURNEY TO THE ROOF OF THE WORLD

LADAKH, INDIA • JULY 7 – 16, 2008

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## RESERVATION FORM

To reserve a place, please return this form along with your deposit of \$1,000 per person to:

**Global Learning Across Borders**

**4818 43rd Street, Ste. 4C**

**Woodside, NY 11377**

*Or call (800) 984-4522 or email [info@global-lab.org](mailto:info@global-lab.org) for more information*

Final payment is due no later than March 7, 2008.

Name/s of Traveler/s \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### ACCOMODATIONS

I wish to share a room with: \_\_\_\_\_

Double       Twin       Single Occupancy (Supplement of \$1,850)

### PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check for my deposit of \$1,000 per person, payable to Global Learning Across Borders

Enclosed is my additional check of \$1,000 for a tax-deductible donation, payable to the World Monuments Fund

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms and Conditions of this program, and agree to full payment to Global Learning Across Borders by check no later than March 7, 2008.

*Each participant must sign below.*

Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



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*Global Learning Across Borders, a non-profit 501(c)(3) based in New York, exists to educate and inspire new generations of young people and adults to become responsible and committed global citizens in their local communities and beyond. We do this through international cultural immersion and community service programs for young adults; global studies professional development programs for educators; partnering with schools to help design and launch experiential global education and service programs; and through global expeditions that offer exceptional cultural experiences for adults.*

Global Learning Across Borders • [www.global-lab.org](http://www.global-lab.org) • 1.800.984.4522 • [info@global-lab.org](mailto:info@global-lab.org)