## **CONNECTIONS** by Abercrombie & Kent

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BOUTIQUE GROUP

JOURNEYS

2024

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## Experience authentic local access in Europe and beyond, on a revealing boutique journey led by experts.

I have found more travellers than ever before are looking for experiences that immerse them in the daily life of their destination. **Connections Boutique Group Journeys** are designed to do just that, revealing local people, culture and cuisine at their most authentic and intimate.

Whether you travel on a land journey or a river cruise, A&K connects you to off-the-beaten-path locales and vibrant local cultures in ways that only a company with our heritage and reputation can make possible. Taste oysters fresh from the sea in Portugal, meet with the Berbers in a village beneath the peaks of Morocco's Atlas Mountains and try your hand at playing an alphorn in Switzerland.

No matter which journey you choose, you will travel with a Resident Tour Director<sup>®</sup> who leads your group of just 24 guests from start to finish, and stay in expertly chosen boutique hotels that reflect the character of your destination.

I invite you to enjoy unrivalled local access — backed by our more than 60 years' experience in small group travel on any of the inspiring Connections journeys presented in this 2024 portfolio.

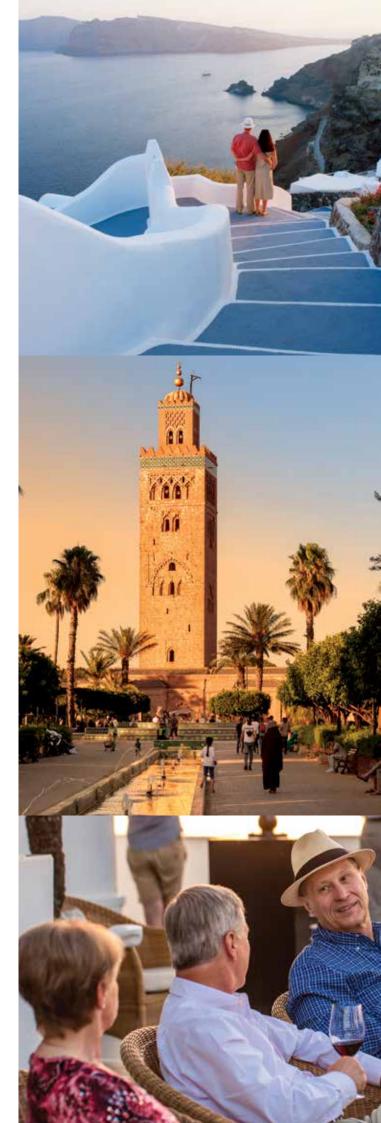
For information on our full range of Small Group Journeys, please Call A&K on 1300 583 901, visit www.abercrombiekent.com.au or speak to your travel agent to find out more.



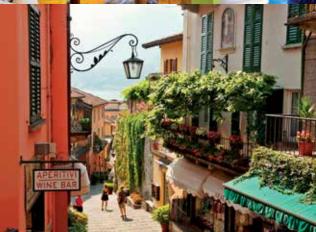
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Geoffrey Kent Founder & Chairman Emeritus Abercrombie & Kent

Prices, departure dates and availability are correct at the time of printing. Please visit www.abercrombiekent.com.au for the most up-to-date information.



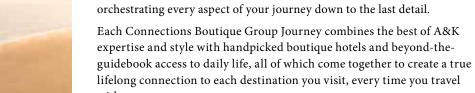












and Authenticity

#### We Stake Our Reputation on Every Journey

From our earliest journeys up

to the present day, we set the

standard for authentic and

Our Unmatched Legacy of Service, Expertise

Abercrombie & Kent is the world's premier experiential travel company, with an unrivalled legacy of creating memorable adventures in the world's most compelling destinations. Our on-site experts work tirelessly to design authentic boutique experiences you won't find anywhere else,

immersive travel.

A&K's service and reputation are tested every day against the most discerning audience: our guests. And time and again, we pass the test, creating seamless travel experiences in nearly any destination. Sixty years in the making and backed by thousands of journeys and countless miles, our reputation rests on one singular goal: deliver the best-possible travel experience to every guest, every time.

> "Our Tour Director made our Iceland trip extraordinary! His knowledge and expertise were vast and he shared his love of Iceland and made us love it as well!"

> > — Nancy







## Our deep-rooted local access takes you places no one else can, with an authenticity no one else can match.

#### The Difference Local Access Makes

For A&K, having our own local staff is only the beginning. We build lasting one-on-one relationships with the people who know your destination best, from craftspeople and chefs to experts in local art and history.

What does this mean for you as an A&K Connections guest? It means you experience each stop on your journey from a truly local perspective. We don't just bring you to the beautiful hamlet of Oropos — you delve into the rich secrets of Greek cuisine with a local family and share lunch with them at their table. And you don't simply observe daily life in Morocco's High Atlas Mountains as a passerby, you visit with local Berber families in their private homes.

#### **Resident Tour Directors With Deep Local Ties**

If there's one thing A&K guests consistently value most about their journeys, it is their Resident Tour Director - more than 95 percent of our guests rate them as "Excellent." Year-round experts, our Resident Tour Directors have lived for decades, sometimes even their entire lives, in the places you visit and possess the kind of insight into local culture that can only come from being a local themselves. Overseeing your entire journey, they accompany you every day, sharing their unique understanding of daily life as well as your destination's culture, history and cuisine. The result is a journey that reveals the real spirit of a place, connecting you to the people and places you encounter in a way you'll never forget.



# Share one-of-a-kind boutique experiences with fascinating local people.

#### Immersive Travel at Its Finest

Connections Boutique Group Journeys reveal the distinct culture of a place, connecting you to it and its people in unexpected and unforgettable ways. Experience authentic local interactions at every turn, perhaps mingling with locals as you peruse the produce at La Boqueria in Barcelona — one of the finest food markets in Europe on **Spain: Seven Cities**, or getting the knack of yodelling in a fun class on **Switzerland & the Italian Lakes**.

#### Authentic Meals in Every Destination

Sampling delicious new food can be just as exciting as seeing the destination. We choose vibrant restaurants favoured more by the locals than by tourists and arrange memorable dining opportunities that range from a fresh-made lunch at a geothermally heated greenhouse in Iceland to a tasting at an organic buffalo mozzarella farm in Campania, Italy. Every journey also includes festive welcome and farewell dinners, a wonderful way to connect with the new friends you've made.

#### Intimate Groups of no More Than 24 Guests

Travel with no more than 24 guests, which allows for more intimate access to places and experiences that larger groups can't manage. Whether by land or by river, travelling in these privileged small groups also brings added opportunities to get to know your Resident Tour Director as well as your fellow guests in a relaxed, casual atmosphere.

#### **Connections European River Cruise Journeys**

Discover the charm of the Old World on a small-group boutique river cruise experience that only A&K can bring to life. Every journey offers a comprehensive itinerary that reveals your destination on and off the water, featuring the same insider access, local experts and carefully chosen boutique accommodations as our land journeys. When dining on board, your Connections group sits at specially reserved tables, joined by your Resident Tour Director, and going ashore, your small group dines at local restaurants — something no one else on your cruise does.











#### Included With Every Connections Boutique Group Journey

- English-Speaking Resident Tour Director and Local Guides
- Hand-Selected Boutique Accommodations
- Airport Meet and Greet with Private Transfers
- Full Breakfast Daily; Select Lunches and Dinners
- Internet Access
- Entrance Fees, Taxes and All Gratuities Except Resident Tour Director
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support
- Guaranteed Departures With Just Two Guests\*

\*lceland: Geysers & Glaciers departures are guaranteed to operate with four guests



## Wherever you travel, we deliver peace of mind from start to finish.

#### A Reassuring Local Presence From the Moment You Arrive

The A&K difference becomes clear as soon as you arrive and meet your representative, who assists with your luggage and escorts you privately to your hotel — on a Connections Boutique Group Journey, you don't share a vehicle on arrival transfers, even with other A&K guests.

#### Private Transfers and Gratuities Included

Private arrival and departure transfers are always included with your journey, regardless of when you choose to arrive or depart. Likewise, all of your gratuities are included, save for your Resident Tour Director, which is at your sole discretion.

#### Stay Connected on Us

Don't wait for your trip to end to share photos and stories with the folks back home — enjoy complimentary Internet access during hotel stays, along with ship-wide Wi-Fi available free to Connections guests on each of our European River Cruise Journeys.

#### Departure Dates and Prices Are Always Guaranteed

As soon as we have at least two people booked on an A&K Connections Boutique Group Journey, it is guaranteed to take place\*. You don't need to worry about a last-minute phone call saying your holiday has been cancelled. If you're committed to going, then so are we. And if the price you pay for your journey drops after you book, we'll refund the difference.

## Our experts handpick exceptional boutique hotels that complement your journey.

#### One-of-a-Kind Heritage and Authentic Local Character

On your Connections Boutique Group Journey, unwind in intimate boutique hotels that sometimes began as private mansions, government residences or religious centres, and that feature a special heritage that lives on in every guest room and public space. With its own unique story, every hotel provides a palpable sense of place that feels like the destination of which it is a part. The Vintage House is set among the ancient vineyards of the Douro Valley, while Hotel Husafell, with its contemporary, eco-friendly design, showcases the beautiful Icelandic wilderness.

#### Easy Access to the Most Desirable Neighbourhoods

Perhaps the most important feature of a great hotel is its location, and that's why the experts who create Connections Boutique Group Journeys choose properties that put the heart of a neighbourhood right at your doorstep. Stay at Catalonia Ronda in Spain for views of the historic bullring from a rooftop infinity pool, or at ROMEO Hotel, set in the heart of Naples and only steps from San Carlo Theatre and the world-famous Spaccanapoli — crammed with boutique shops, bars, galleries, street musicians and fruit vendors.

#### Just the Right Size for Comfort and Convenience

Because their clients travel in larger groups of 40 or more, other tour companies must accommodate their clients in high-rise chain hotels with no sense of intimacy. Our boutique hotels typically have around 100 rooms (many have far fewer), ensuring you don't return from a day's sightseeing having to reach your room through a crowd of other guests.

"A fabulous experience, with history, a great museum, excellent hotels and good variety, and our guide made it wonderful for all guests. He was just a gem!"

— William









#### SICILY, PUGLIA & THE AMALFI COAST

Palermo | Agrigento | Taormina | Matera | Alberobello | Naples | Positano | Capri Experience the glories of Southern Italy on a panoramic journey revealing authentic cuisine and culture as well as the slow pace of rural life. Discover Sicily's ancient ruins, exotic landscapes and the rocky shores of breathtaking Capri. Savour the flavours of Italy with a private buffalo mozzarella tasting and a visit to a Puglian olive oil producer. Take an A&K-exclusive guided tour of Palazzo Francavilla with the owner, Visit Roman Herculaneum — a town once submerged by mud and lava — and drive the stunning Amalfi Coast Road to Positano.

> MULTIPLE DEPARTURES | 11 MAY-OCT 2024 | DAYS

FROM \$13,665 PP

LIMITED TO 24 GUESTS





#### ITALY'S JEWELS: CINQUE TERRE & THE NORTH

Milan | Como | Turin | Rapallo | Cinque Terre | Parma | Verona | Venice

Experience all the charm and magic of Italy's elegant northern provinces, from exquisite food and wine to unique landscapes and cultures to some of the country's most distinguished cities. Immerse yourself in the vibrant colours and rugged cliffs of the Cinque Terre, explore beautiful Lake Como on a private boat cruise, enjoy a foodie tour in Parma and a pesto cooking class, and discover Turin, once the royal capital of Italy.

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES10FROMLIMITED TOJUN-JUL & SEP-OCT 2024DAYS\$13,200 PP24 GUESTS



#### SWITZERLAND & THE ITALIAN LAKES

Zurich (Switzerland) | Lucerne | Bern | Interlaken | Zermatt | Stresa (Italy) | Milan Take in some of Europe's most scenic vistas on this journey combining the beautiful Swiss Alps with Italy's glorious Lakes District. Soak up the stunning scenery and natural landscapes of the region, along with unique cities. Travel by train to Zermatt with exceptional views of Switzerland's beautiful mountain scenery. Gain private access to Bern's landmark Zytglogge bell tower for an intimate guided visit. Savour famously smooth Swiss chocolate during a tasting workshop at an independent producer. Take a private boat tour of Lake Maggiore, and enjoy a special farewell dinner on beautiful Isola Bella.

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES11FROMLIMITED TOMAY-JUL & SEP-OCT 2024DAYS\$17,085 PP24 GUESTS





#### CRUISING HOLLAND & BELGIUM IN BLOOM

Amsterdam (Holland) | Arnhem | Zeeland | Bruges & Ghent (Belgium) | Antwerp Delft & Keukenhof | Amsterdam

Discover Holland and Belgium in flower-filled springtime, exploring amid vibrant blossoms and iconic windmills. Meet fascinating local people along the way who share the history, cuisine and crafts that make these countries truly unique as you cruise through Holland's and Belgium's finest cities and towns. Indulge in a full afternoon at stunning Keukenhof Gardens. Sample local cuisine during culinary experiences ashore, from a lunch of *moules-frites* to a tasting of Edam cheese and marvel at a family tulip farm on a private visit.

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES9FROMLIMITED TOAPR-MAY 2024DAYS\$11,335 PP24 GUESTS





#### GREECE: ATHENS & THE AEGEAN

Athens | Oropos | Crete | Santorini | Athens

Discover an unmatched blend of ancient history and modern wonders in Greece, savouring the relaxed pace of island living and the lively bustle of Athens alike, and indulging in the rich variety of Mediterranean cuisine. Visit some of the most renowned sites of the ancient world, including the Acropolis, Parthenon and Palace of Knossos. Stroll through the Minoan Bronze Age settlement of Akrotiri (reputed to be Atlantis), admiring its beautiful frescos, and admire the majestic Temple of Poseidon, built during the Golden Age of Ancient Athens.

> MULTIPLE DEPARTURES | 10 | MAY-JUN & SEP-OCT 2024 | DAYS | \$

FROM LIMITED TO \$14,215PP 24 GUESTS





#### SPAIN: SEVEN CITIES

Barcelona | Granada | Ronda | Gibraltar (UK) | Seville | Córdoba | Madrid

Experience the best of Spain on a wide-ranging journey of cultural, historical and culinary discovery, contrasting the sun-dappled and atmospheric Andalusia region with the vibrant cities of Barcelona and Madrid. Explore the historic Alhambra, an architectural masterpiece overlooking the ancient city of Granada. Experience an authentic bodega and privately sample sherry in the famed region of Jerez. Ride in a horse-drawn carriage to a restaurant for authentic tapas, and journey to a private palace in Seville, where local flamenco dancers and singers perform just for you.

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES 10 FROM LIMITED TO APR-OCT 2024 DAYS \$11,300 PP 24 GUESTS



#### PORTRAIT OF PORTUGAL

Lisbon | Nazaré | Coimbra | Douro Valley | Porto

Explore the charms and rural traditions of Portugal, from the bustling capital of Lisbon to the idyllic Douro Valley and charismatic Porto, experiencing wonderful cultural and culinary heritage unique to each place. Enjoy a cooking class with a viscountess in the old kitchens of her family estate. Sit down to a private dinner and traditional fado performance. Dine at a fantastic seafood restaurant in Nazaré, one of Portugal's most picturesque traditional fishing villages. Ply the scenic Douro River on a private cruise, and savour a winery visit, picnic lunch, and tasting among the picture-perfect Douro landscape.

> MULTIPLE DEPARTURES FROM DAYS \$10,870 PP MAY-JUL & SEP 2024

LIMITED TO 24 GUESTS

LIMITED TO

24 GUESTS



#### **ICELAND: GEYSERS & GLACIERS**

Reykjavik | Thorsmork | South Iceland | Golden Circle | Husafell | Reykjavik Take in this stunning island nation on an unforgettable journey that spans volcanic landscapes, thermal swimming pools and glacial rivers, ancient Viking sites and cosmopolitan Reykjavik, the world's most northerly capital. Pay a private visit to a local family farm and savour the delicious Icelandic foods produced there. Discover Iceland's breathtaking Nordic landscape - everything from lava caves and hot springs to waterfalls and fjords. Unwind with a relaxing soak in the bubbling thermal pools of the Blue Lagoon, and cruise Reykjavik Harbour to spot myriad whale species.

DAYS

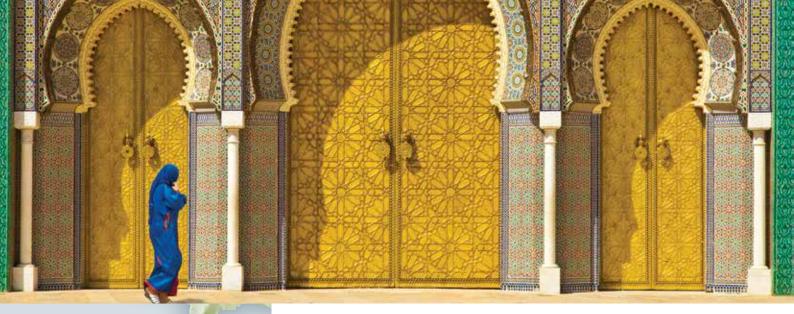
FROM

\$15,530 PP

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES

MAY-OCT 2024

CELAND Husafell Reykjavik O. South Iceland Thorsmork Keflavik OARRIVE/DEPART 





#### MOROCCO: IMPERIAL CITIES

Casablanca | Fes | Rabat | Marrakech

Experience exotic Morocco, dining in an authentic riad, navigating the lively medina of Marrakech savouring the cuisine and sights of the beautiful "Red City" and meeting the Berber people in a village beneath the peaks of the Atlas Mountains. You will also explore Fes el-Bali, Morocco's cultural heart, on a guided walk through its winding alleyways and myriad souks, and tread the ancient Roman paths at Volubilis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, to marvel at soaring arches and vivid, well-preserved 2,000-year-old mosaics.

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES	8	FROM	LIMITED TO
FEB, APR-MAY & SEP-DEC 2024	DAYS	\$9,315 PP	24 GUESTS





#### NORTH AMERICA: CANADIAN ROCKIES

Calgary | Lake Louise | Jasper | Banff

Discover Canada's breathtaking natural wonderland on an expertly led itinerary that reveals misty forests and flowery meadows, rapid rivers and vibrant lakes, and astonishing wildlife — all wrapped up in the stunning Canadian Rockies. Experience epic hikes, floats and adventurous drives amidst the stunning Alberta wilderness. Take part in a hands-on lesson with a professional photographer at Moraine Lake, one of the most picturesque in the Canadian Rockies. Feed your adrenaline as you traverse the massive Athabasca Glacier and hike the vibrant Emerald Lake region with one of the country's best naturalist guides.

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DAYS

MULTIPLE DEPARTURES JUN-SEP 2024 FROM LIMITED TO \$13,200 PP 24 GUESTS

## Abercrombie & Kent Backed by over 60 years of unbeatable expertise, A&K offers a world of opportunities for discovery and adventure.

Abercrombie & Kent pioneered the luxury adventure in 1962. Today we are the world's undisputed luxurytravel leader, delivering an award-winning combination of exclusivity, comfort and authenticity on all seven continents, backed by the experts in over 55 offices and more than 30 countries. Led by a Resident Tour Director, A&K's Small Group Journeys feature average group sizes of 15-18 guests and our hallmark insider-access experiences courtesy of our longstanding local connections. Luxury Tailor Made journeys are created for you and your family or friends, featuring sites and activities chosen to match your interests. Luxury Expedition Cruises represent the ultimate in small ship cruising, with only the finest Expedition Team, vessels, excursions, planning and service on itineraries panning every continent on the planet.



LUXURY TAILOR MADE JOURNEYS | SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS | LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISES

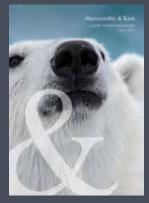


Contact A&K on 1300 583 901, visit us online or speak to your travel advisor to learn more about the extraordinary possibilities of A&K travel.

## Explore More of the World in A&K Style



SMALL GROUP JOURNEYS



LUXURY EXPEDITION CRUISES



TAILOR-MADE JOURNEYS



AFRICA



THE AMERICAS



ASIA



AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND



EUROPE



INDIA, SRI LANKA, NEPAL & BHUTAN



NORTH AFRICA & MIDDLE EAST

Call A&K on 1300 583 901, visit www.abercrombiekent.com.au or speak to your travel agent to find out more.



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