

**SOCIETY FOR ASIAN ART PRESENTS  
STUNNING TREASURES FROM ASIA IN SAN DIEGO  
NOVEMBER 9 – 12, 2021**



*The LEED-certified Inamori Pavilion at Japanese Friendship Garden in Balboa Park, designed by Kotaro Nakamura, offers views of a cascading waterfall and koi ponds. Photo by Dominic Nepomuceno, Oct. 6, 2016.*

Join the Society for Asian Art for two full days in San Diego! Balboa Park is home to three institutions that boast significant collections from Japan, China, India and elsewhere in Asia: The Mingei International Museum, Japanese Friendship Garden, and San Diego Museum of Art. We will also visit the Chinese Historical Museum and a renowned private collection of Japanese ceramics. Our tour ends on a festive note in Old Town, where we will enjoy the best Mexican food north of the border. Our base for this tour will be the award-winning Solamar San Diego, situated in the lively Gaslamp District, within walking distance to many restaurants.

Reservations will be accepted BY MAIL ONLY and must include the full payment for the trip by check or credit card. Mail the completed reservation form and payment to the tour operator, Meg MacDonald, Travel Muse Inc., 369 Montezuma Avenue, #319, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Contact Meg MacDonald with any questions, (617) 480-0250, [meg@travelmuse.net](mailto:meg@travelmuse.net).

Acceptance will be determined by the earliest postmark date. This trip is limited to a maximum of 20 SAA members.

*A final, updated Itinerary will be sent to you two weeks prior to the tour.*

## Itinerary

**INCLUDED MEALS GLOSSARY: B = Breakfast R = Reception D = Dinner**

**Day 1 Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**

**R**

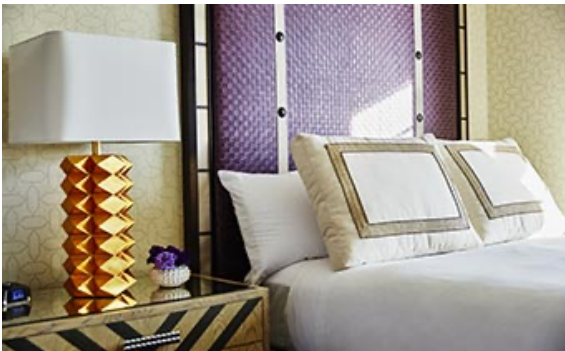
Arrive in San Diego independently, and check-in to our hotel in the Gaslamp District.



Solamar San Diego  
435 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
(619) 819-9500  
[www.hotelsolamar.com](http://www.hotelsolamar.com)

Reserved for SAA tour participants:

Deluxe Rooms with one king or two queen beds, which are approximately 340 square feet and feature a bath/shower combination.



6:00 p.m. Evening meet and greet in the hotel's rooftop Upper East Bar.

Dinner Dinner is on your own this evening.

**Day 2 Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup>**

**B, R**

**Breakfast** Breakfast is served in the hotel's Jsix Restaurant from 7:00-10:30 a.m. Group breakfast vouchers, inclusive of tax and gratuity, will be provided at check-in.

**10:00 a.m.** Our tour kicks off with a visit at the **Mingei International Museum** in Balboa Park, which re-opened in September 2021 after a major three-year, \$55 million renovation.  
Address: 1439 El Prado, Balboa Park. <https://www.mingei.org>

*Split into two groups of up to 10 people. Docent tours typically run 1 hour.*

Mingei International Museum, housed in a Mission Revival Style building, built for the Panama-California exhibition of 1915-1916.

The Museum collects, conserves and exhibits folk art, craft, and design. The word *mingei*, meaning “art of the people”, was coined by the Japanese scholar, Dr. Sōetsu Yanagi, by combining the Japanese words for all people (*min* 民) and art (*gei* 芸). The Museum's collections comprise 17,500 objects from 141 countries. The collections contain artifacts from the 3rd century BCE to the present day and include objects as diverse as ancient clay vessels and 21<sup>st</sup> century Venetian glass.



Japanese art forms the core of the Museum's *mingei* holdings, with more than 3,000 items including pottery, textiles, wood carvings, lacquer ware, metal work. Other collections of interest include holdings from India (bronzes, wood carvings, pottery, and textiles); China (costumes, jewelry, wood carvings, and pottery); and Indonesia (ancestral monuments, wood carvings, textiles, masks, and sculptures).

*LEFT: Sleeping Garment (yogi), 19th century Meiji Period, Japan*



We will have docent-led tours of “*Global Spirit – Folk Art from the Ted Cohen Collection*” and “*Humble Spirit / Priceless Art*.”

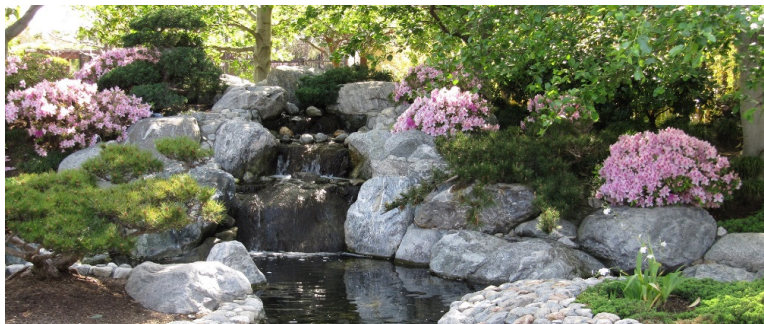
- **Global Spirit—Folk Art from the Ted Cohen Collection** showcases folk art from more than 20 countries, highlighting a donation to the Museum by Oakland-based collector and exhibition designer Ted Cohen. Over 200 works will be featured in this exhibition, including handcrafted masks, puppets, dolls, instruments, and baskets, as well as unexpected objects such as hat boxes, a lunch box and a three-foot-tall elephant made from paper and bamboo. The vast array of materials and subject matter is representative of the Museum’s mission to celebrate human creativity in all forms.
- Curated by Mingei Executive Director and CEO Rob Sidner, **Humble Spirit / Priceless Art** shines a light on the humblest of materials—clay, straw, paper, cotton, tin—and objects not typically associated with luxury or ostentation. These works were created from everyday found materials, but are nevertheless full of spirit, beauty, and delight, upending our traditional thinking about what art is. This exhibition will include Japanese brushes, Mexican combs, and kites from India, among other Museum treasures.

Lunch                      Lunch on your own at the Bistro at the Mingei.

*3-minute walk (0.1 mile) to the Japanese Friendship Garden.*

1:00 p.m.                Next, we will visit the lovely, tranquil grounds of the **Japanese Friendship Garden**, built as part of the World Expo of 1915. Address: 2215 Pan American Road E., Balboa Park. <https://www.niwa.org>

*Divide into two groups of up to 10 people, with the first group tour at 1:00 p.m. and the second at 2:00 p.m.*



Because the public enjoyed it, the garden remained cared for by volunteers for the next 30 years. The permanent spot has been maintained as 'San-Kei-En,' meaning 'our garden.' The Japanese gardens incorporate traditional elements and San Diego regional landscape. The exhibit hall includes objects of Japanese cultural arts, including woodblock prints, furniture, a doll house, and more.



LEFT: Kannon Bosatsu (Avalokitesvara), 1735 A.D., sculpted by Takumi Obata, an accomplished Japanese iron smith during the Tokugawa period (1602-1868) who created work such as the lanterns of the Tokugawa Shogunate mausoleums and the bronze bell of Chosho-ji Temple in Tokyo.

Continue by ride-share service to...

4:00 p.m. Visit Gordon Brodfuehrer's private collection of Japanese ceramics, ending with a cocktail party. You may want to look at *Nature, Tradition, Innovation: Contemporary Japanese Ceramics from the Gordon Brodfuehrer Collection* by Meher McArthur for more information on what you will be seeing.

Dinner Dinner is on your own this evening.

### Day 3 Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>

**B, D**

Breakfast Breakfast is served in the hotel's Jsix Restaurant from 7:00-10:30 a.m. Group breakfast vouchers, inclusive of tax and gratuity, will be provided at check-in.



The San Diego Museum of Art (SDMART) was designed in a plateresque style to harmonize with existing structures from the Panama–California Exposition of 1915, and to complement the museum's strength in Spanish works.

10:00 a.m. Docent-led tour (50 minutes) of the Asian art collection at **The San Diego Museum of Art** (SDMART), the region's oldest and largest art museum. Its collections are encyclopedic in nature, with pieces ranging in date from 5000 BCE to 2012 CE.

Address: 1450 El Prado, Balboa Park. <https://www.sdmart.org>



LEFT: *Bodhisattva*, ca. 565, China

We will see works from two collections:

- Art of East Asia vividly animates the philosophical and creative traditions that inspired Asian luminaries and everyday people throughout China, Japan, and Korea. This story begins with a section devoted to Chinese tomb art and develops through Buddhist icons, Daoist visions in the setting of a formal Chinese reception hall, the mixture of Buddhist, Daoist, and Shinto domestic piety embodied by the objects of a Japanese living space, and a much-anticipated display of arts of Korea. Throughout the galleries, hands-on elements offer visitors chances to interact with East Asian art in an uncommonly tactile way.
- Arts of South and Southeast Asia: The earliest works are mostly religious, relating to the ritual practices of Buddhism, Jainism, and Hinduism. Although each religion has a distinct set of gods and divinities, all three based the iconography of these figures on the human form. Buddhism spread along the Silk Road moving west to Pakistan and Central Asia, and east to China, Japan, Korea, and Southeast Asia. Hinduism also traveled to Sri Lanka and Southeast Asia. During a series of invasions and migrations in the eleventh century, people from Central Asia moved into Pakistan and northern India. They brought India a new literary language, Persian, and Islam. By the end of the fifteenth century, European traders and missionaries began arriving by sea. They, in addition to goods, also brought oil paintings and engravings. These cultural influences thrived alongside traditions stemming from the region's native languages, literatures, and religions, which continue to flourish.

**Lunch** Lunch on your own at the museum's restaurant, located in the May S. Marcy Sculpture Court and Garden and featuring craft beer and fresh casual fare sourced locally.

**Afternoon** Visit the **San Diego Chinese Historical Museum** for a guided tour. Address: 404 Third Avenue, San Diego. <https://sdchm.org>



The permanent collection consists of artifacts that represent Chinese history, art, and culture, and which also tell the stories of Chinese American experiences. It exhibits changing selections of fine art, folk art, decorative arts, clothing, household and commercial goods, archeological finds, and mementos of the Chinese community of San Diego. There are also two prominent timelines on a central wall, with one wall depicting a timeline of Chinese history from the Shang to the Qing dynasty, and the other, the Chinese American immigration story with a focus on the community in San Diego.

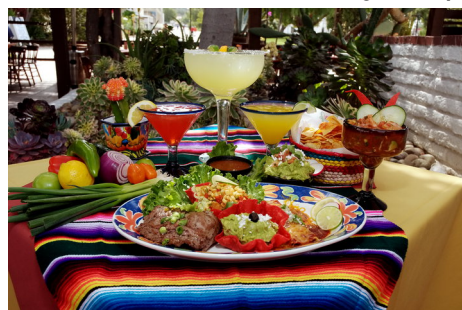


*Left: Ceramic figurine of a female polo player*

Return to the hotel at your leisure. The hotel is 3 blocks from SDCHM.

**Evening** Take the trolley to dinner – allow 30 to 35 minutes total, including a 5-minute walk to the Gaslamp Quarter trolley stop, a 19-minute trolley journey on the Sycuan Green Line from the Gaslamp Quarter stop to the Old Town Transit Center, and a 5-6-minute walk to the restaurant.

**6:30 p.m.** Dinner at **Case de Reyes**, a beautiful and authentic Mexican restaurant in Old Town. We have reserved a lovely private dining room for what promises to be a festive and feast-ful evening. Address: 2754 Calhoun St., San Diego. <https://casadereyesrestaurant.com>





**Day 4 Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**

**B**

Breakfast Breakfast is served in the hotel's Jsix Restaurant from 7:00-10:30 a.m. Group breakfast vouchers, inclusive of tax and gratuity, will be provided at check-in.

Following breakfast, the tour program ends.

Depart San Diego or consider extending your stay. The hotel will extend your room at the group rate of \$285 per night, including taxes, excluding breakfast, and subject to availability. Please contact Meg MacDonald at Travel Muse Inc. to request additional nights.



## Program Information

### LAND-ONLY TOUR PRICES

Tour price per person, based on double occupancy:	\$1,195
Single supplement:	\$ 425
Pre- or post-tour extra night, per room	\$ 285

*(Includes tax, excludes breakfast; subject to availability, for up to extra 3 nights)*

Upgrades are available upon request, and subject to availability.

***The Tour Price is based on a minimum of 15 paying participants.***

***Private visits are subject to availability of hosts and their confirmation.***

***Travel Muse reserves the right to make comparable changes to ensure quality and excellence.***

### INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE:

- Accommodations for three nights at Solamar San Diego in Deluxe rooms with a choice of one King Bed or two Queen Beds (340 sq. ft.), including sales and occupancy taxes
- Complimentary WiFi internet access at the hotel
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary including breakfast daily, one welcome reception with two glasses of wine per person, and one farewell dinner including sangria and margaritas.
- Docents, as indicated in the itinerary
- Entrances to all sites featured in the itinerary

### EXCLUDED:

- Travel expenses including airfare to/from San Diego (SAN)
- Airport transfers to / from the hotel
- Parking (valet parking at the hotel is \$50/night)
- Porterage at the hotel upon arrival and departure
- Housekeeping gratuities (\$3 per room per day is suggested)
- Transportation by taxi, Uber/Lyft, or public transportation to, from and between sites, as indicated in the itinerary
- Gratuities to hotel staff, local guides, and drivers
- Meals and beverages not otherwise included
- Items for personal use, including phone and fax charges, minibar, and laundry services
- Tickets to any events or performances

**Questions? Contact Meg MacDonald at Travel Muse Inc.:  
(617) 480-0250 or [meg@travelmuse.net](mailto:meg@travelmuse.net)**

## Terms and Conditions

Travel Muse Inc. has arranged travel and travel-related services on behalf of the sponsoring organization for the tour in which you will participate. A customized itinerary has been created exclusively for your use and may not be reproduced in any form or distributed without the prior consent of Travel Muse.

Should the number of passengers fall below the indicated minimum number of paying participants, certain program inclusions may be deleted. All amounts quoted with respect to charges for the tour and travel services are based upon rates in effect at the time the tour was first promoted. At the time of final payment, Travel Muse reserves the right to add any increased amounts arising from changes in taxes and from changes instituted by suppliers or caused by market conditions. Please note that adjustments cannot be made for unused transfers, sightseeing trips, or meals.

### REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- Full payment is due by September 10<sup>th</sup> (to firm up hotel space) \*
  - \* **Please note: Registration cannot be accepted until the Terms and Conditions have been read, and you sign and return the Risk Acknowledgement & Liability Release along with the Booking Form.**

### CANCELLATION POLICY

All cancellations must be made in writing to Travel Muse Inc., 369 Montezuma Avenue, #319, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Cancellations received prior to September 10<sup>th</sup> (60 days prior) .....\$500 \*

Cancellations received on or after September 10<sup>th</sup> ..... Total tour cost \*\*

\* **Cancellation fee covers administrative and operational costs and any penalties assessed by suppliers.**

\*\* **Travel insurance information will be sent to you upon receipt of your payment.**

**Questions? Contact Meg MacDonald at Travel Muse Inc.:  
(617) 480-0250 or [meg@travelmuse.net](mailto:meg@travelmuse.net)**

## **Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Binding Arbitration Clause**

**This Agreement is important.**

**It includes terms and conditions and releases Travel Muse Inc. from liability.**

**It must be agreed to by all participants.**

Travel Muse Inc., its owners, directors, officers, employees and affiliates (collectively "Travel Muse") does not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, ownership or control over hotels or other lodging facilities, airline, vessel, bus, van or other transportation companies, local ground operators, providers or organizers of optional or included excursions or equipment used thereon, food service or entertainment providers, etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors.

Travel Muse is not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or entity, or that of any other third party. Without limitation, Travel Muse is not responsible for any injury, loss, or damage to person or property, death, delay or inconvenience in connection with the provision of any goods or services occasioned by or resulting from, but not limited to, acts of God, acts of government, force majeure, acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, strikes or other labor activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, or the threat thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; structural or other defective conditions in hotels or other lodging facilities; financial failure or other defaults by suppliers; mechanical or other failure of airplanes or other means of transportation or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely; dangers associated with or bites from animals, pests or insects, marine life or vegetation of any sort; dangers incident to recreational activities such as swimming, kayaking, sailing, canoeing, rafting, hiking, bicycling, etc.; sanitation problems; food poisoning; lack of access to or quality of medical care; difficulty in evacuation in case of a medical or other emergency; illness, epidemics or the threat thereof or for any other cause beyond the direct control of Travel Muse. In addition, I release Travel Muse from its own negligence and assume all risk thereof. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated.

Travel Muse may take photographs or video of its trips, and participants grant Travel Muse permission to do so and for it to use same for promotional or commercial use without payment of any compensation to participant.

Travel Muse reserves the right to change hotels or other features of the trip if it believes by doing so it will enhance the safety, comfort, or enjoyment of the trip. Travel Muse reserves the right to cancel the tour prior to departure in which event the entire payment to it will be refunded with no further obligation or liability on its part. Travel Muse reserves the right to substitute accommodations, your features, carriers, or qualified tour staff; or to alter the itinerary of the program at any time when deemed appropriate or advisable without penalty or liability. Travel Muse, in its sole discretion, reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any participant whose health or actions, in Travel Muse's sole judgment, impede the operation of the tour or the welfare or enjoyment of fellow participants.

Travel Muse is not responsible or liable for loss, damage or theft of personal baggage and belongings, nor is it liable for personal injury, accident, or illness, however caused. We strongly suggest you purchase trip cancellation insurance to guard against various contingencies.

**ASSUMPTION OF RISK.** I am aware that travel such as I am undertaking involves activities, some in remote areas, with a risk of illness, injury or death which may be caused by forces of nature, animals, insects or flora, the negligence of Travel Muse or other persons and/or by entities either known or unknown, or of willful or criminal conduct of third parties. I am aware that medical services or facilities may not be readily available or accessible or consistent with standards in the United States during some or all of the time during which I am participating on the trip and that, when available, may not be of the quality which exists in the United States. In order to partake of the enjoyment and excitement of this trip, I am willing to accept the risks and uncertainty involved as being an integral part of my adventure. I hereby accept and assume full responsibility for any and all risks of illness, injury, or death.

**VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION.** I acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate on the trip designated on this application and that I have read the description of the trip as it appears in the promotional material relating to the trip, together with all information contained in this application. I am voluntarily participating in this trip with knowledge of the risks and hazards involved.

**BINDING ARBITRATION.** I agree that any dispute concerning, relating, or referring to this Agreement, the brochure or any other literature concerning my trip, or the trip itself, shall be resolved exclusively by binding arbitration pursuant to the Federal Arbitration Act, 9 U.S.C. §§1-16, either according to the then existing Commercial Rules of the American Arbitration Association (AAA) or pursuant to the Comprehensive Arbitration Rules & Procedures of the Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc. (JAMS). Such proceedings will be governed by substantive (but not procedural) New Mexico law and will take place in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The arbitrator and not any federal, state, or local court or agency shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable.

Please understand that by agreeing to these terms and conditions, you (and we) are waiving our right to a trial by jury.

**KNOWING AND VOLUNTARY EXECUTION.** I have carefully read this Agreement and fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract between myself and Travel Muse and/or its affiliated organizations and agree to it of my own free will.

**NOTE: There will be a box to click on your Online Traveler Portal indicating you have read and understood the Terms and Conditions and the Release from Liability Agreement.**

*Updated: 15 February 2020*



## About Travel Muse Inc.

Travel Muse specializes in custom tour design and management to destinations around the world. Tours are designed with a focus — art, decorative arts, architecture, music, horticulture, cooking, or wine tasting, among others. Travel Muse develops, promotes, operates and, when requested, escorts tours sponsored by non-profit clients, including museums, colleges, libraries, foundations, and private clubs.

Travel Muse was founded in 2000 by Meg MacDonald, who previously had nine years of experience in specialty group travel.

Current and past clients include American Ceramic Circle; Art Institute of Chicago (Trustees/Fellows tours; Members tours; Community Associate tours); Asian Art Museum; The Boston Athenæum; Buffalo Bill Center of the West; Charlottesville Opera; Chilton Club; CIMAM; Clark Art Institute; Cleveland Botanical Garden; Columbia Museum of Art; Fundació Fotocolectania; Historic Deerfield; The John Carter Brown Library; The Metropolitan Museum of Art; Minneapolis Institute of Art; Museo Guggenheim-Bilbao; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; The Newberry Library; Palm Springs Art Museum; Pasadena Arts Alliance; The Preservation Society of Newport County; Silver Studies; Society of Philosophes; Speed Art Museum; Telfair Museum; The Union Club of Boston; The University Club (New York); Wadsworth Atheneum; Wellesley College Friends of Horticulture; Williams College Museum of Art; Williams College Society of Alumni; and academic and curatorial tour leaders currently or formerly associated with Christie's; National Trust for Scotland; Philadelphia Museum of Art; Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and Radcliffe Seminars. Meg has also worked with the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Metropolitan Opera Guild, and other non-profit cultural institutions. She graduated from Williams College with a B.A. in 1980 and earned a Master's in journalism from Boston University in 1984.

Meg MacDonald (President and Muse Director) lives and works in Santa Fe, NM, having re-located from Boston in 2014.

For more information, contact Meg MacDonald, Travel Muse Inc., (617) 480-0250, meg@travelmuse.net.

**RESERVATION FORM**

I would like to reserve \_\_\_\_\_ space(s) for the **Stunning Treasures from Asia in San Diego trip**, Nov. 9-12, 2021. Please note that you must be a member of the Society for Asian Art to go on this trip. If you are NOT currently a member, you may join or renew on the SAA website.

Enclosed is the full payment by check or credit card (American Express, Visa, MasterCard or Discover) of \$1,195 per person double occupancy or \$1,620 per person single occupancy, a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Please make checks payable to Travel Muse Inc. and mail to Meg MacDonald, Travel Muse Inc., 369 Montezuma Avenue, #319, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

**Applications will be accepted by mail only and inclusion will be based on postmark date. Signed waivers of liability are required from each applicant prior to participation on this trip.**

**PLEASE REFER TO THE CANCELLATION POLICY FOR THIS TRIP.**

**Do NOT make any airline reservations until your trip participation is confirmed.**

**TRIP PARTICIPANT(S) INFORMATION**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD**

\_\_\_ Check enclosed, payable to **Travel Muse Inc.**

\_\_\_ Charge my credit card no. \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Billing address if different from above: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

\_\_\_ Single Occupancy

\_\_\_ Double Occupancy - Room Preference: \_\_\_ 1 King Bed or \_\_\_ Two Queen Beds

I will be sharing a room with: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I/we would like additional nights to be booked at the hotel. Please specify dates: \_\_\_\_\_

**DIETARY ISSUES** Please advise if there any foods you do not eat: \_\_\_\_\_

**WAIVER OF LIABILITY**

I/We have read the details of this brochure, including the Terms and Conditions, and agree to abide by all stipulations.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_