

2023
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Legacy Journeys

NINE EXTRAORDINARY EXCURSIONS

Your invitation to experience nature with The Legacy Club

The Nature
Conservancy 

THE
LEGACY
CLUB



Pine Butte, MT
July 9-14
July 17-22

Western Maine
July 23-28

Hart Prairie Preserve, AZ
September 18-23

**Little St. Simons
Island, GA**
May 5-11
May 11-17

*PACIFIC
OCEAN*

*ATLANTIC
OCEAN*

**Baja California,
Mexico**
March 12-19

Big Bend & West Texas
October 16-22

Dominican Republic
February 12-18

2023 Legacy Journeys

Journey to:

Dominican Republic to explore—from green ridges to sparkling waters—one of the Caribbean’s most vibrant islands. ▶ **page 4**

Mexico’s Baja California Peninsula to experience unforgettable marine mammal sightings amid a backdrop of unparalleled coastal beauty. ▶ **page 6**

Little St. Simons Island to commune with nature amongst maritime forests, shell-strewn beaches and abundant wetlands off the coast of Georgia. ▶ **page 8**

Pine Butte Preserve to spend your days in Montana exploring the largest wetland complex along the Rocky Mountain Front, marveling at one of the jewels of the Crown of the Continent. ▶ **page 10**

Western Maine where forest-filtered air will cleanse your body and soul while you gain a deeper appreciation for the “lungs of the Earth” located in the heart of America’s Vacationland. ▶ **page 12**

Hart Prairie Preserve in Arizona for rustic comfort and awe-inspiring scenery that make for a memorable visit to the American Southwest. ▶ **page 14**

Big Bend & West Texas to explore landscapes sculpted by wind and water that support diverse wildlife and local communities. ▶ **page 16**

Registration opens Wednesday, August 31 at 2 p.m. ET!





Dear Legacy Club Member,

I am excited to announce that you, a valued Legacy Club member, can **reserve a spot on one of our nine 2023 Legacy Journeys excursions—on a first-come, first-served basis—beginning Wednesday, August 31, at 2 p.m. ET.**

From snorkeling in the beautiful Caribbean waters of the Dominican Republic to whale watching in Baja Mexico to exploring the Chihuahuan Desert of Big Bend, Texas, you will have the opportunity to witness some of The Nature Conservancy's most significant conservation successes during these sustainable travel opportunities, exclusively for Legacy Club members like you. Regardless of which trip you choose, you will join Nature Conservancy experts, local conservation partners and like-minded travelers in exploring unique places and becoming acquainted with local communities impacted by your support. You will also gain firsthand knowledge about how TNC employs cutting-edge science to conserve biodiversity and adjust to a changing climate around the world.

I hope you will join us in the new year for a front-row seat to a meaningful experience that feeds your wanderlust and desire to make a difference. And whether you travel with us or not, I want to thank you for your incredible support of TNC. You make all this possible!



Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meg B. Thomson".

Meg B. Thomson
Associate Director, Legacy Club Program

Please note that we will continue to implement COVID protocols to ensure the safety and well-being of all travelers. See [nature.org/legacyjourneys](https://www.nature.org/legacyjourneys) for the most up-to-date information.

Please direct any questions you may have about a departure to the travel specialist listed for that journey or to Kelly Newburg, TNC's Legacy Journeys program manager (kelly.newburg@tnc.org or 720-778-1659).



To provide travelers more transparency when considering if a trip is a good fit, we've included icons to represent the anticipated departure activities. For a full legend of the icons, visit page 20.

Dominican Republic



Discover a nature lover's paradise in the white sandy beaches and lavish greenery of the Dominican Republic. From Pico Duarte—the highest mountain in the Caribbean—to the country's lowest point at Lake Enriquillo, diverse wildlife settles into an intricate mosaic of lush rain and cloud forests, rolling savannas, saltwater lakes, mangrove-lined lagoons and calm azure waters that harbor fragile and productive coral reefs. Before long, guests will be on “island time,” and cultivating an appreciation for why 25% of this tropical country has been protected forever.

Highlights

- Search for migrating humpback whales in Samaná Bay.
- Explore the Colonial City of Santo Domingo, the city's historic core and a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- Don snorkeling gear and check out coral gardens to see coral outplanting at work.
- Board a skiff for a water-based tour of the magnificent Parque Nacional del Este.





Conservation Efforts

The Conservancy has long worked with partners to help establish national parks and marine conservation areas that protect the Dominican Republic's breathtaking beauty, diverse wildlife and local livelihoods. In Samaná Bay, TNC and the Center for the Conservation and Ecodevelopment of Samaná Bay and its Surroundings (CEBSE) organized public meetings with fishers and tourism operators around developing recommendations to improve local waters degraded by overfishing, deforestation and diversion. The workshops yielded ideas about sustainably managing this important source of food and financial security for approximately 2,000 fishers and sanctuary for migrating humpback whales that attracts visitors from around the world.

February 12-18

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

(800) 329-4930

concierge@iconicadventures.com

OCCUPANCY

Double \$5,600/person	Single \$6,600/person
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Please note: This trip must have 14 travelers.

Baja California Peninsula



Explore Mexico's Baja California Peninsula, surrounded by bountiful waters harboring a charismatic array of marine mammals, including migrating blue, gray, fin, humpback and pilot whales. This journey features three unforgettable stops. The first is Loreto Bay National Park, a chain of islands where thriving seagrass beds attract five species of sea turtles. Next, to Magdalena Bay, where northern and southern currents merge, creating nutrient-rich waters ready to welcome gray whales seeking a suitable haven to bear their young after one of the longest migrations known to exist among mammals. The trip concludes with a rare opportunity to experience Isla Espíritu Santo, part of a UNESCO World Heritage site and Biosphere Reserve.

Highlights

- Snorkel alongside whale sharks in La Paz Bay.
- Sleep under the stars at the Espiritu Santo Archipelago National Park.
- Hike, swim and snorkel around Coronado Island, known for its beautiful white-sand beaches.
- Visit the more than 260-year-old San Javier Mission, one of the best-preserved missions in Baja.





Conservation Efforts

The rich waters around Baja California yield more than 70% of Mexico's commercial fishing catch, feeding millions of people. But the failure to manage the health of these fisheries now threatens this key industry, and especially the livelihoods of local fishers. In response, The Nature Conservancy and partners are working with 25 local communities to create no-take replenishment zones that allow fish populations to rebound. Sustainably managing these waters is showing promise, with up to a 30% increase in fish biomass in some places.

March 12-19

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

(800) 329-4930

concierge@iconicadventures.com

OCCUPANCY

Double \$5,500/person	Single \$6,675/person
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Please note: This trip must have 14 travelers.

Little St. Simons Island



Nature leads the way on Little St. Simons Island, Georgia, making it a favored destination for those yearning for an ecofriendly respite. Spend your days following the gentle rhythm of the tides at this privately held nature sanctuary teeming with gracious Southern hospitality. You can begin your days watching birds feeding in the morning shadows and surf with a backdrop of a perfectly serene sunrise. Whether kayaking on tidal creeks and salt marshes or strolling through maritime forests with Spanish moss-draped oaks, you're sure to enjoy this incredible island.

Highlights

- Take a guided adventure with naturalists who live and work on the island.
- Tuck into a bird blind to watch egrets, herons and roseate spoonbills.
- Go on a guided kayak trip along tidal creeks surrounded by thousands of acres of protected coastal salt marsh.
- Tour the natural freshwater ponds around the island that harbor an abundance of American alligators.





Conservation Efforts

In 2015, TNC secured a conservation easement to permanently protect Little St. Simons Island's fragile local ecology and unique wildlife. This visionary action has inspired other conservation projects like one of the first living shorelines in Georgia. The living shoreline is helping stabilize tidal salt marsh creek banks with native plants and live oyster beds to promote natural processes that prevent erosion, replenishing oyster populations, providing habitat for other marine species and fortifying the island in the face of rising sea levels.

May 5-11 or May 11-17

Note two departures from which to select.

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

Shana Love, (912) 638-7472
shana@littlessi.com

OCCUPANCY

Double \$3,538/person	Single \$5,925/person
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Please note: This trip has a minimum of 24 participants and a maximum of 30.

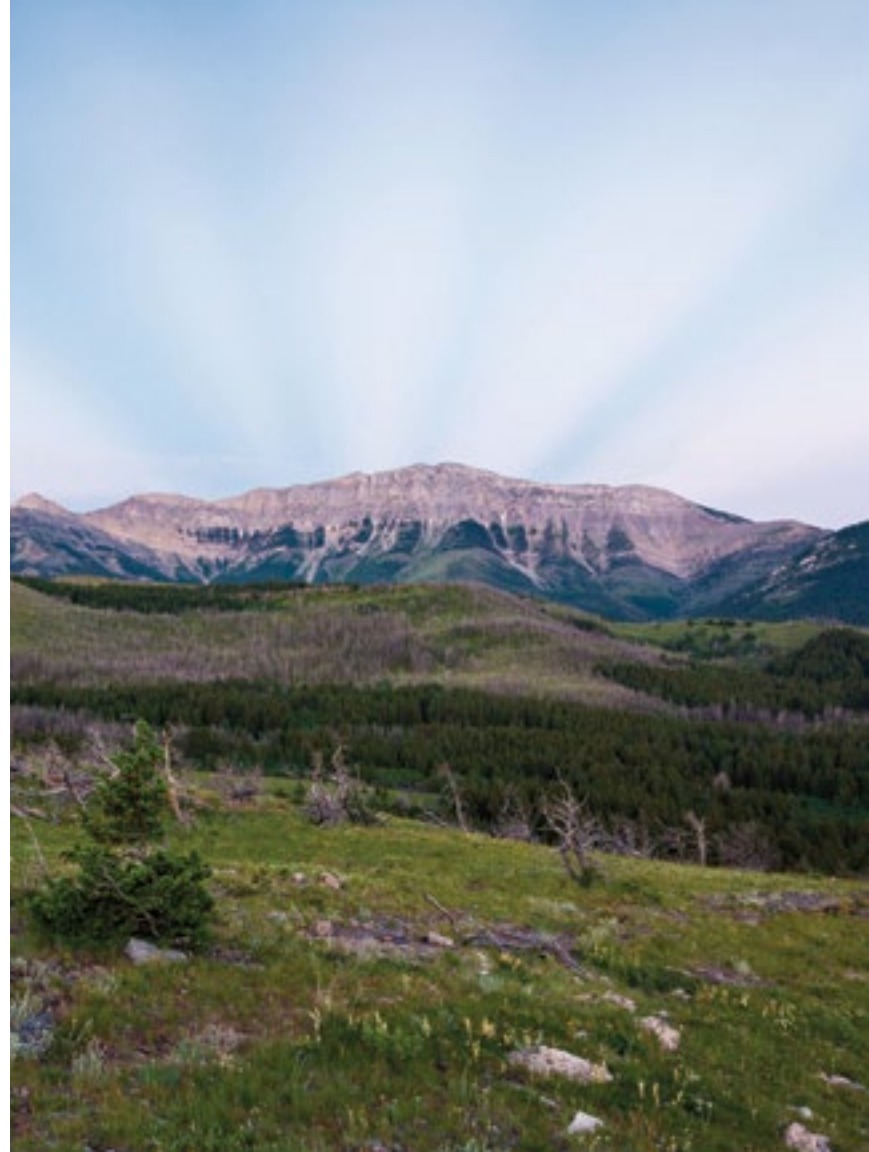
Pine Butte



Where the mountains meet the prairie in western Montana, you see “the big sky,” a phrase coined by A.B. Guthrie Jr. in his 1947 novel of the same name, and it’s where you’ll find The Nature Conservancy’s Pine Butte Preserve. The historic Pine Butte Ranch is your base for this remarkable journey into one of North America’s most intact and wild ecosystems. Dramatic limestone peaks tower above native grasslands, the views seemingly go on forever, and opportunities for exploring diverse habitats seem just as endless. Through hikes and guided naturalist tours, you’ll have a unique opportunity to experience this rugged and beautiful region.

Highlights

- Set out on trails that pass lush wetlands, century-old pines and alpine streams.
- Let our naturalists guide you through part of North America’s largest intact ecosystem.
- Soak in the ranch’s rustic vibe while relaxing in one of its sturdy porch rockers.
- Look for signs of grizzly bears, moose and elk.





Conservation Efforts

Not far from the ranch lies the Pine Butte Swamp Preserve, where TNC is working with local agencies and neighboring landowners to protect some of the most-intact remaining bear habitat in the lower 48 United States. Each spring, grizzlies descend from their mountain retreats to the preserve—which contains the largest wetland complex along the Rocky Mountain Front—to raise their young and replenish their energy reserves. Adjacent to the Bob Marshall Wilderness, the preserve provides a vital connection between the mountains and the plains for wildlife such as mountain lions, mule deer, lynx and moose.

July 9-14 or July 17-22

Note two departures from which to select.

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

(800) 329-4930

concierge@iconicadventures.com

OCCUPANCY

Double \$4,815/person	Single \$4,815/person
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Please note: This trip must have 14 travelers.

Western Maine



Join us in enjoying simple days surrounded by nature in the Pine Tree State. Our journey begins in Portland—Maine’s most populous city—overlooking a stunning rocky coastline, before heading west. From our home base, we will spend the next several days traveling around the striking mountains, crystal-clear lakes and streams, and quaint New England towns that grace this verdant landscape. With TNC scientists and partners as guides, we will travel on foot, by kayak and in the occasional vehicle to experience unique parts of this charming and casual “Lakes and Mountains Region” that most visitors never see.

Highlights

- Kayak Maine’s Androscoggin River while learning about the watershed’s rich history.
- Ride a “chondola” for a bird’s-eye view of the Mahoosuc Range.
- Attend a screening of “*Love Flows*,” a World Fish Migration Day documentary, followed by a Q&A with TNC experts.
- Go birding in a lush boreal forest with a local guide.





Conservation Efforts

Maine’s forests, which cover 89% of the state, capture an enormous amount of climate-warming carbon and provide cooler havens for people and wildlife. They also filter pollution and sediment from rivers and streams flowing into bodies of fresh water such as Sebago Lake, which supplies drinking water to one in six Mainers. Since only 10% of the forests surrounding Sebago Lake are permanently protected, TNC is working with Sebago Clean Waters to establish a water fund—through which downstream users pay to protect nature upstream—to conserve 35,000 acres of priority forestlands around this vital resource.

July 23-28

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

(800) 329-4930
concierge@iconicadventures.com

OCCUPANCY

Double \$5,000/person	Single \$5,675/person
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Please note: This trip must have 14 travelers.

Hart Prairie



Nestled within the San Francisco peaks near Flagstaff, Arizona, the 1870s homestead at Hart Prairie was gifted to The Nature Conservancy following the discovery of the world's largest known community of globally rare Bebb willows. Here, your cozy and rustic cabin serves as home base for exploring the preserve's mosaic of old-growth aspens, ponderosa pines and open meadows. Throughout the 245-acre property, you can look for herds of elk and deer, porcupines, prairie dogs, and the impressive array of birds and butterflies that inhabit this alpine pocket of the Southwest. We will also venture off-site to the Wild and Scenic Verde River and the unforgettable Grand Canyon National Park.

Highlights

- Unplug and relax in rustic and cozy lodging on Hart Prairie Preserve.
- Hike the South Kaibab Trail and marvel at the Grand Canyon's South Rim.
- Travel a scenic loop through high ponderosa pine forests to Sunset Crater Volcano National Park.
- Kayak on the Verde River, the lifeblood of the region.





Conservation Efforts

In Arizona, the Verde River serves as a primary source of water for wildlife, recreation and local communities. These competing demands threaten to compromise the aquifer that feeds the Verde, even reducing its flow for downstream users. The Conservancy and partners are developing an innovative, community-driven, voluntary program for water users to purchase offset credits from other users willing to reduce their consumption in an effort to collectively alleviate the negative impact of groundwater pumping along the river.

September 18-23

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

(800) 329-4930

concierge@iconicadventures.com

OCCUPANCY

Double \$4,090/person	Single \$4,090/person
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Please note: This trip must have 10 travelers.

Big Bend & West Texas



From above, the three highest mountain ranges of far west Texas seemingly emerge from an ocean of sand and clouds. Called “sky islands,” these landscapes harbor ecosystems that are at risk of disappearing. Our first stop is to one of these oases, The Nature Conservancy’s Davis Mountains Preserve, rising more than 8,300 feet above sea level out of the vast Chihuahuan Desert. Our journey leads to Big Bend National Park, where the Rio Grande nourishes an arid region teeming with an extraordinary amount of life throughout the year.

Highlights

- Paddle through Big Bend Ranch State Park past steep canyon walls formed by volcanic rock.
- Hike through juniper, oak and pinyon pine forest at Big Bend National Park to be rewarded with stunning views of Pine Canyon and the Sierra del Carmen in Mexico.
- Sit back, relax and look toward the stars at the Greater Big Bend International Dark Sky Reserve—the largest dark sky reserve in the world.





Conservation Efforts

While Texas is known for wide-open spaces, its growing population is stretching natural resources to their limits. As a result, conserving the 33,075-acre Davis Mountains Preserve is more important than ever. To build on this progress, TNC has worked with a variety of partners to permanently protect more than 110,000 additional acres to maintain natural corridors that allow plants and animals to thrive without disturbance, promote dark skies critical to ongoing astronomical research, and secure water sources key to the survival of the people and wildlife that call this region of the Lone Star State home.

October 16-22

INFORMATION / RESERVATIONS

(800) 329-4930

concierge@iconicadventures.com

OCCUPANCY

Double	Single
\$5,260/person	\$6,075/person

Please note: This trip must have 14 travelers.





“Nature is the purest
portal to inner peace.”

—ANGIE WEILAND-CROSBY, AUTHOR

Is a Journey Right for You?

When considering whether a trip is right for you, look closely at the itinerary and reach out to the tour operator to discuss activities, accessibility, your ability level or any other concerns. Travelers should be able to walk as far as 3 miles over uneven terrain with some elevation gain. Some trips may include activities such as boating, snorkeling or swimming. Expect to be outdoors from four to eight hours on most days. A range of weather conditions is possible during each trip. If you do not wish to participate in an activity, discuss this with the tour operator before the trip, and, if possible, accommodations will be made.

With each journey, we are committed to travel practices that have a minimal impact on our planet. These include:

- utilizing environmentally and socially responsible vendors;
- pursuing carbon offsets for each traveler to establish a carbon-neutral program; and
- reducing waste.

While we want to host as many supporters to experience nature and TNC's work as possible, we limit the number of travelers on these journeys to:

- ensure travelers have the opportunity to frequently connect with TNC staff;
- promote relationship building with fellow travelers; and
- provide a variety of activities that are best accomplished with smaller groups.

Please note that the prices quoted in this brochure are estimates and may be different based on taxes and other updated and incidental fees.

Icon Legend



Birding



Cycling



Fishing



Hiking



Kayaking



Snorkeling



Stargazing



Sun exposure



Swimming



Walking



Wildlife viewing

Experience Nature

Looking for more ways to encounter TNC's work?

VISIT a preserve locally: [nature.org/visitourpreserves](https://www.nature.org/visitourpreserves)

CONNECT with nature by volunteering in your community: [nature.org/volunteer](https://www.nature.org/volunteer)

EXPLORE unique landscapes and experience some of the nature that you help protect, all from the comfort of your home, with The Legacy Club's webinar series. Recordings from past series can be viewed at: [nature.org/webtalks](https://www.nature.org/webtalks)

QUESTIONS? Your Legacy Club stewardship team is here to help with questions about your Legacy Club opportunities and communications, or about TNC and our conservation work. Email LCteam@tnc.org and a team member will get back to you!

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Join us on an exclusive journey!



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Registration opens Wednesday, August 31 at 2 p.m. ET!



Scan the code
with your phone's
camera to learn
more about the
2023 Legacy
Journeys

Salutation Line 1
Salutation Line 2
Salutation Line 3



PHOVC23FY01VLCJYXX
AUGUST 2022