



HARVARD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
2017 WORLDWIDE TRAVEL PROGRAM



Mitla, Oaxaca (Russ Bowling)

TRAVELS

2017

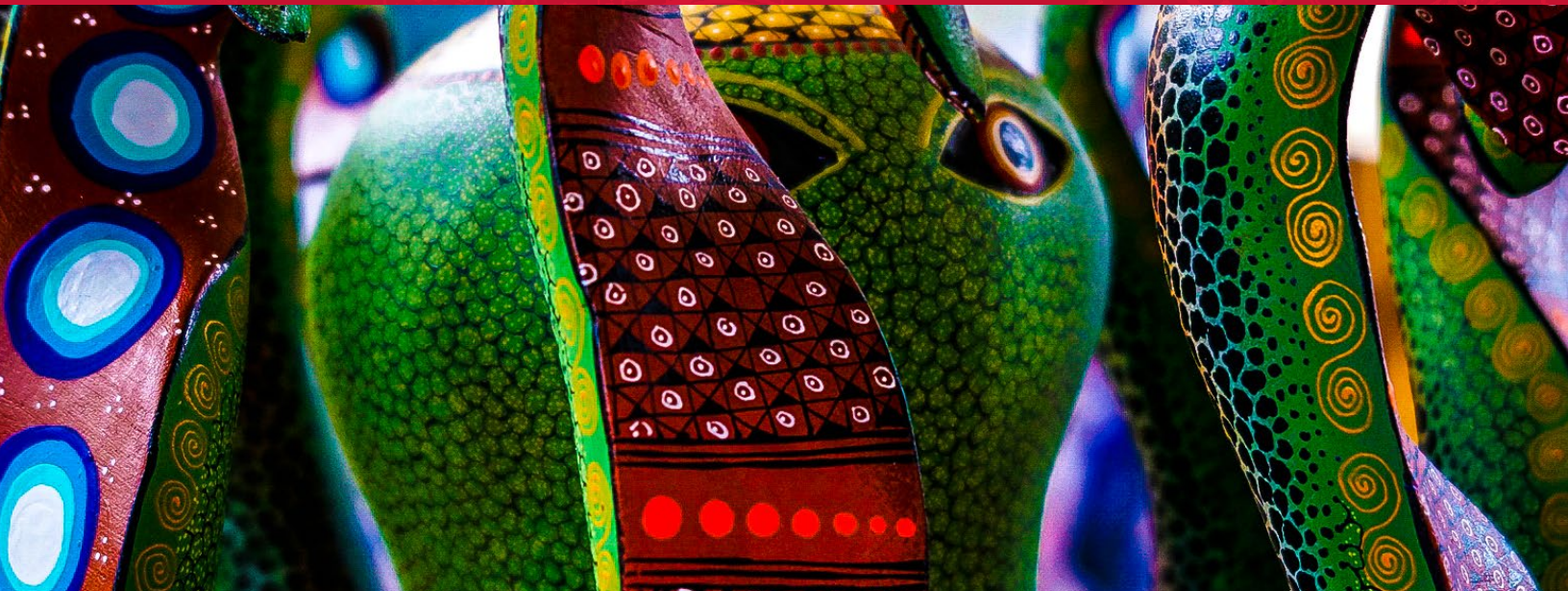
Puebla & Oaxaca

November 6–12, 2017
with Professor Benedict Gross

Puebla & Oaxaca

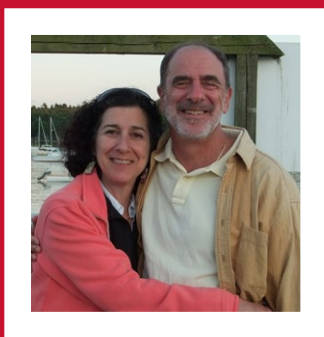
November 6–12, 2017

TRIP OVERVIEW



(above) "Octopus," vibrant crafts in Oaxaca (Giulian Frisoni)

Join Harvard alumni and friends for a journey into the cultural legacy of Puebla and Oaxaca, both thriving cities with remarkable ancient and colonial heritages. During colonial times, rich craft traditions evolved that incorporated techniques brought by Spanish settlers with those of the natives. In both modern Puebla and Oaxaca, the arts are experiencing a robust revival by a large population of talented young artists. This enriching itinerary explores the ancient architecture and contemporary art, the surrounding archaeological sites and craft villages, and the delicious regional cuisine of Puebla and Oaxaca. The program is enhanced throughout by lectures, museum visits, and gallery receptions with scholars, artists, and gallery owners who contribute their knowledge and personal interpretations of the continued creative phenomena that has brought about a renaissance in the arts in the colonial cities of Puebla and Oaxaca.



HARVARD STUDY LEADER

BENEDICT (DICK) GROSS, AB '71, PhD '78 is the George Vasmer Leverett Professor of Mathematics. His mathematical research is in the areas of number theory and arithmetic geometry. He has taught undergraduate courses at all levels, has advised many graduate students, and has even served as dean of Harvard College. He will be joined by his wife, Jill, associate director and chief informatics officer at the Broad Institute in Cambridge, Mass., where she directs computational biology and bioinformatics. She has spent more than 25 years applying computational approaches to problems in biomedical research, and was an active member of the human genome project.

On this program Professor Gross will lecture on Mayan Mathematics and Astronomy—the way different ancient cultures (the Babylonians, the Chinese, the Indians, the Greeks and the Mayans) reached the same mathematical conclusions.

SCHEDULE BY DAY

Monday, November 6

United States / Puebla

Fly independently to Puebla via Houston on United Airlines. (Travelers could also fly to Mexico City, which is about a two-hour drive from the Mexico City airport). Transfer independently to the five-star Quinta Real, housed in a restored 16th-century convent, and check into your room. Enjoy a festive welcome dinner in the hotel's splendid courtyard restaurant.

Quinta Real, Puebla (D)

Tuesday, November 7

Puebla

Today is devoted to exploring the beautiful city of Puebla, capital of the state of Puebla and one of Mexico's most beautiful colonial cities. Begin at the Biblioteca Palafoxiana, at its time considered the finest library in the New World. Proceed to the Amparo Museum, one of Mexico's top museums, featuring an excellent collection of pre-Hispanic and colonial art. At the Casa del Dean, marvel at restored colonial frescos based on Ovid's *Metamorphosis*. Sample outstanding regional cuisine at one of Puebla's best restaurants, renowned for its traditional molé dishes. Conclude the afternoon at the Church of Santo Domingo to see its Capilla de Rosário (rosary chapel), which has been called the "Eighth Wonder of the World" because of its ornate and colorful plasterwork. Return to the hotel or continue to the Museum of Popular Arts, housed in the beautiful 18th-century Santa Rosa Convent, which showcases an excellent collection of handicrafts typical to the state of Puebla. This evening, dinner is independent.

Quinta Real, Puebla (B, L)



Wednesday, November 8

Folk Churches of Mexico

Spend the morning visiting the Church of San Francisco Acatepec and the Church of Santa Maria Tonantzintla. The churches are elaborately decorated with colorful Puebla tiles and wood carved by local artisans. The Churrigueresque façade of the Acatepec Church is a fantasy of tile, and the interior of the Tonantzintla church is covered floor to ceiling in fabulous gilded and polychrome faces, cherubs, and foliage. Continue to Cholula, which spreads out at the foot of an ancient pre-Columbian pyramid. Archeological investigations suggest Cholula was first occupied by 400 B.C., making it the oldest city of the Western Hemisphere to be continually inhabited. The large quantity of churches erected by the Spaniards has merited Cholula with the nickname "The City of Churches." Enjoy a walking tour of the town, and see its most beautiful structures, including Los Remedios Church etched against the sky. Following a relaxing lunch on Cholula's main square, enjoy a quick visit to the impressive Capilla Real. Before returning to Puebla, visit one of the finest talavera pottery studios in



Photos: (from top to bottom) Biblioteca Palafoxiana, Puebla, Mexico (Alejandro), Museo Amparo (Olivier Bruchez), Santo Domingo Capilla del Rosario (Larry Johnson), and Colonial Architecture, Los Remedios, Puebla (Comisión Mexicana de Filmaciones)

SCHEDULE BY DAY

Mexico and enjoy a special demonstration of the process. Dinner is independent.

Quinta Real, Puebla (B, L)

Thursday, November 9

Puebla / Monte Albán / Oaxaca

Following breakfast, enjoy a spectacular drive through the mountains to Oaxaca (about four hours from Puebla). En route, stop to visit Monte Albán, the ancient Zapotec capital located on the northern outskirts of Oaxaca. Following lunch, enjoy a guided tour of this immense archaeological site, once an important ceremonial center and one of the largest Meso-American cities at its peak. Upon arrival in Oaxaca, check into the Camino Real. After some free time to relax and get settled into your hotel room, stop at Arte de Oaxaca, a beautiful gallery housed in a colonial building. Enjoy a discussion introducing the works represented by the gallery and the development of Oaxaca's contemporary art community. Then take a short orientation walking tour through Oaxaca's festive zócalo before proceeding to dinner at one of Oaxaca's most elegant patio restaurants.

Quinta Real, Oaxaca (B, L, D)

Friday, November 10

Oaxaca

Drive to the archaeological site of Mitla, which introduced a new style of pre-Hispanic architecture of decorating the palace walls with incredible stone mosaics. The streets surrounding the ruins are lined with shops selling textiles, including embroidered dresses, rebozos, tablecloths, rugs, and hammocks, many of which incorporate original Mitla designs.

Continue to Teotitlán del Valle, a major Zapotec weaving village famous for its traditional weaving techniques and coloring with natural dyes. Enjoy a home-hosted lunch with a traditional Zapotec family followed by a visit to the

family's studio for a demonstration of the carding, spinning, and dyeing of natural wool and weaving on treadle looms. Return to Oaxaca with the remainder of the afternoon at leisure.

Quinta Real, Oaxaca (B, L)

Saturday, November 11

Oaxaca

Walk to the splendid Santo Domingo Church, celebrated as one of the great art treasures of the country. Among the fine carvings on the baroque facade, the figure holding a church is Santo Domingo de Guzmán, the 13th-century Spanish monk who founded the Dominican Order. Continue next door to the ancient ex-convent of Santo Domingo, which now houses a remarkable regional museum that includes a collection with more than 500 objects of gold, jade, amber, coral, and silver excavated from Tomb Seven at Monte Albán. Conclude your morning at the Ex-Convento de San Pablo. One of the newest cultural attractions in Oaxaca, the Ex-Convento was funded by philanthropist Alfredo Harp Helú, who restored parts of a church and built a beautiful learning center and textile museum. Enjoy the remainder of the afternoon at leisure, or join an optional walking tour to see Oaxaca's colorful city market and famous chocolate mills. This evening, bid *adiós* to Mexico during a farewell dinner at one of Oaxaca's best restaurants, Casa Oaxaca, a spectacular rooftop restaurant overlooking Santo Domingo.

Quinta Real, Oaxaca (B, D)

Sunday, November 12

Oaxaca

Following breakfast, transfer by private motorcoach to the Oaxaca airport for return flights back to the United States.

Photos: (from top to bottom) Monte Albán (Eduardo Robles Pacheco), Inner Corner, Mitla (Christopher Holden), Santo Domingo Cathedral (Russ Bowling), and Zapotec Figure by Jacobo and Maria Angeles (Evelyn)



TERMS & CONDITIONS

PRICING: \$3,995 per person double occupancy
\$595 single supplement

PROGRAM COST INCLUSIONS: Three nights' hotel accommodations in the deluxe Quinta Real Puebla; three nights' hotel accommodations in the deluxe Quinta Real Oaxaca; meals per the itinerary: breakfast daily, four lunches, three dinners; mineral water, one glass of wine, plus coffee and tea included with lunch and dinner; entrance fees to all sites listed in the itinerary; land transportation by private motorcoach; one group airport transfer upon arrival and one group airport transfer upon departure; services of ISDI tour manager; luggage handling two bags per person upon arrival and departure; gratuities for guides and drivers; complete pre-tour documentation and materials; \$200,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance.

PROGRAM COST EXCLUSIONS: U.S. domestic or international airfare and taxes or fuel charges; transfers to and from the airport for those not using group transfers; passport and visa fees; gratuities for chambermaids; airport portage upon arrival and departure; excursions of meals marked as optional or independent on the itinerary; personal not listed as included such as telephone calls, personal services and travel extensions, room service and valet service; items such as wines, liquors, mineral water, à la carte orders and laundry charges. Other items not specifically mentioned as included; trip cancellation insurance.

PROGRAM SIZE: This tour, (exclusively developed for the Harvard Alumni Association), is limited to 30 participants on a first-come, first-served basis. The minimum group size is 12. Should the minimum not be met, we reserve the right to cancel the program, levy a small group surcharge, and/or send the program without a HAA study leader. We retain the right to add staff members and/or invited guests to any of our group departures regardless of the stated group-size limitation.

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, & FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this program, a \$1,000 deposit is required per person. Please either call us at 800.422.1636 or 617.496.0806 or fill out and mail or fax the registration form (to 617.495.0434). Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Deposits may be made by check, payable to Harvard Alumni Association, or with a major credit card. Final payments, payable by check, is due before July 28, 2017.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by HAA from the participant. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply: Cancellations received on or before July 28, 2017 are subject to a \$500 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received between July 29 and September 22, 2017 are subjected to a \$2,000 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received on or after September 23, 2017: no refund. We recommend that you purchase a travel insurance policy to cover cancellation due to unforeseen circumstances.

INSURANCE: We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance to cover unexpected trip interruptions, cancellations, and lost baggage. An application for trip cancellation insurance will be provided by Harvard Alumni Travels upon confirmation. The pre-existing medical conditions exclusion is waived if the insurance is purchased within 21 days of initial deposit. Neither the Harvard Alumni Travels nor our tour operators, including their representatives, employees and agents, will take responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guests' dependents or traveling companions, with regards to, but not limited to, cancellation or curtailment of the tour, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and goods. Nor do they accept liability for

any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket or other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour.

AIR ARRANGEMENTS: The tour operator can assist you with your air arrangements. Neither the Harvard Alumni Association nor the tour operator accepts the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned.

WHAT TO EXPECT / PHYSICAL HEALTH: All participants must be in generally good health. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Travelers must be able to embark or disembark motor coaches alone or with minimal assistance from your traveling companion and climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance. Travelers requiring assistance must travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling equipment. Participants with medical issues and/or dietary restrictions must make them known to us well before departure, and impairments regarding mobility must be disclosed prior to booking. If you have any questions about the level of activity of this program or your ability to participate, please call HAA at 800.422.1636.

PREPARING FOR YOUR JOURNEY: You will be provided with comprehensive pre-departure travel information, including specific suggestions for packing, a recommended reading list and amenities pack.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL & EVACUATION INSURANCE: As a service to our travelers the HAA automatically provides basic emergency medical evacuation insurance. At the time of publication, this policy has the following schedule of benefits: \$5,000 Accident/Sickness Medical Expense; \$200,000 Emergency Medical Evacuation & Return of Remains; \$3,000 Emergency Reunion; \$5,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment This insurance covers travelers for the HAA-sponsored program dates, but not for any extensions or independent travel plans. You will receive detailed information on this coverage approximately 30 days prior to your departure. Should you also purchase the Travel Insurance Select offered to you at confirmation, it will provide you with benefits which are additional to those stated above. This insurance is secondary to any insurance the traveler may already have.

CHANGES IN ITINERARY, PROGRAM, STAFFING, AND COSTS: The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Harvard Alumni Travels and the tour operator. We reserve the right to change a program's dates, staff (including study leader*), itineraries, or accommodations as conditions warrant. Harvard Alumni Travels reserves the right to cancel the program, levy a small group surcharge, and/or send the program without a study leader. If Harvard Alumni Travels is unable to confirm a study leader or should the study leader cancel from this program, we reserve the right to operate the program regardless of Harvard representation. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares and currency exchange rates in effect as of November 2016 and are subject to change.

*In the event of a cancellation by the Harvard study leader, we will attempt to notify all travelers as soon as possible. We will make every reasonable effort to find a replacement study leader, but our ability to do so will depend on the availability of appropriate lecturers and proximity to the departure date. If we are not able to provide an appropriate substitute we will make every reasonable effort to provide

other educational opportunities or program enhancements to ensure a viable travel study experience. Please note that all participants are bound to the cancellation fee schedule and other terms and conditions of the program regardless of whether or not a replacement study leader is found.

RESPONSIBILITY: The tour operator, its owners and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurants, and other services connected with this tour. Such travel and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which such accommodations, services, and transportation are offered or provided, and the Harvard Alumni Association (HAA) and the tour operator and their respective, employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability therefore. The HAA and the tour operator, assume no liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Additionally, responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. The HAA and the tour operator reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, conditions warrant, or if they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience or safety of the tour participants. They reserve the right to withdraw this tour without penalty. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour, or to substitute another qualified leader or special guest. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates, and is subject to change. Any tariff, exchange rate, or fuel increases will be passed onto participants. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

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PERSONAL INFORMATION: All personally identifiable information provided by HAA Travels tour participants is strictly confidential. Personal information is not shared with third parties or made publicly available except under the following circumstances: Name, degree, home city, and email address*; may be included in the tour participant list that is distributed to tour staff and HAA passengers prior to departure; relevant information provided by tour participants to HAA and the tour operator is shared with the agents providing tour services in the destination. Per contractual agreement, the tour operator and its agents are prohibited to share or sell this information to other parties. *Please let us know if you would like to opt out of sharing your email address on the tour participant list.

APPEARING IN PHOTOS: Photos from HAA trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by HAA or other travelers, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future HAA travels promotions; HAA will attempt to notify the traveler in advance, but no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes.

DISCLAIMER: Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented in this publication. Harvard Alumni Association is not responsible for errors in or damages resulting from use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this document is subject to change. **QUESTIONS** Please call HAA Travels at 800.422.1636 or 617.496.0806, or email us at haatravels@harvard.edu