This expedition combines the rich cultural heritage of India, the amazing historic sites of lush Sri Lanka, and the stunning natural beauty of the Maldives. A two-day exploration of Cochin reveals a mélange of international influences with a cruise through the languid Kerala backwaters aboard a local houseboat. In Trivandrum, visit the village of Pongumoode and its surrounding rubber plantations, and enjoy a traditional martial arts demonstration. In Sri Lanka, visit an elephant orphanage, the Temple of the Tooth, and the fort of Galle—the latter two are both World Heritage Sites. Spend three full days in the Maldives for world-famous snorkeling and diving over healthy reefs teeming with fish, and the chance to meet the charming locals.
Based on the expeditionary nature of this trip, there may be ongoing enhancements to the itinerary.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 & 28, 2015
Depart USA / Mumbai, India
Board your independent flight to India, arriving late in the evening of the 28th. Transfer to the Hyatt Regency Mumbai for an overnight.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29
Mumbai / Embark Island Sky
Enjoy a morning at leisure before lunch, then board local boats at the doorstep of the Gateway of India triumphal arch monument for a ride across the bay to visit Elephanta Island. This World Heritage Site has caves with elaborately carved depictions of the Hindu god, Shiva, in various manifestations as destroyer, creator, and preserver. Views of Mumbai’s skyline from the bay are superb. Embark the Island Sky this evening.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30
Mumbai
This morning enjoy an orientation tour of Mumbai. In the former British fort area, see elegant colonial buildings such as the Gothic Victoria Terminus railway station, and the Prince of Wales Museum. Drive along famed Marine Drive, passing Chowpatty Beach, to Malabar Hill with its superb views, parks, and Hanging Gardens. Return to the Island Sky this afternoon.

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1 & 2
Goa
Goa’s Portuguese heritage commenced with the establishment of a trading colony in 1510, led by explorer and later viceroy, Vasco da Gama. The successful spice-trading colony endured for centuries, and today its colonial remnants lend a European charm—cobbled lanes, whitewashed Catholic churches, and balconied, tile-roofed homes. Explore the distinctive churches, museum, and convent of Old Goa. Visit a traditional Goan home for a cooking demonstration and enjoy a lunch of delectable local cuisine. You will also enjoy time at leisure to wander through the old Portuguese district of Fontainhas in the small capital of Panjim.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3
Mangalore
This morning drive through the countryside surrounding Mangalore, a pleasant landscape of rolling hills dotted with tea, coffee, and cashew nut plantations. Visit Karkala’s monolithic Gomasteshwara Statue, dedicated to a Jain saint. Then tour a cashew processing plant followed by a lunch of local specialties at a rural pineapple farm.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 & 5
Cochin
A leisurely two-day exploration of Cochin reveals this delightful community’s mélange of international influences: Portuguese houses, the Dutch Palace (Mattancherry), the Anglican St. Francis Church, and the cantilevered Chinese fishing nets that grace the beaches. To better explore this maze of islands and waterways, board local houseboats for a cruise through Cochin’s backwaters to observe daily life along these languid canals. You will also have the opportunity to attend an evening performance of classical Kathakali dance.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6
Trivandrum
Located near India’s southern tip, Trivandrum, the capital of Kerala, is a pedestrian-friendly town spread out over seven hills. Visit the village of Pongumoode and its surrounding rubber plantations to observe the various stages of rubber processing. Then attend a Kalari Payattu demonstration, Kerala’s ancient form of martial arts.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 7
Colombo, Sri Lanka / Kandy
Today disembark in the bustling city of Colombo for an excursion into the highlands of Sri Lanka, passing through lush, rolling countryside dotted with tea plantations. In Kandy, explore the stunning Temple of the Tooth which houses the tooth of Buddha. This World Heritage Site was originally part of the Royal Palace complex of the Kandyan Kingdom and is one of the holiest places of worship and pilgrimage for Buddhists around the world. You will also visit the Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage and, time permitting, the Botanical Gardens.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8
Galle
Galle’s historic district is one of the best preserved examples of a European-built fortified city in South Asia, reflecting both colonial and South Asian architectural styles. After breakfast on board, enjoy a tour of this charming city visiting the Martin Wickramasinghe Folk Art Museum and Galle Fort, a
World Heritage Site, built by the Dutch in the 16th century. As you drive along the coast, keep an eye out for the iconic fishermen of Koggala, who perch precariously on stilts in the surf. Return to the Island Sky for lunch and set sail for the Maldives.

**Wednesday, December 9**

**At Sea**

Spend a relaxing day at sea as lecturers introduce you to the cultural heritage and natural wonders of the magical Maldives.

**Thursday-Saturday, December 10-12**

**Northern Maldives**

Due to the expeditionary nature of this trip, daily weather and tide conditions will dictate stops in the Maldives. Step ashore on uninhabited islands for nature walks and beachcombing, meet with friendly locals in traditional villages, and snorkel or dive in warm, translucent waters. Over the next three days, visit the special, lesser-visited places in the atolls of the northern Maldives.

**Vangaaru & Utheemu Islands** – The underwater topography of the region is fascinating—a dramatic landscape of thilas, pinnacles and submerged coral structures enveloped in brilliant corals and sea fans, and kandus, deep channels that run between atolls and coral-terraced reefs.

**Baa Atoll** – Made up of about 50 islands, this atoll offers rich biodiversity including large mangroves and unique ring-shaped reef forms known as faru. Recently designated as a UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve, large numbers of manta rays, hawksbill turtles, and frigatebirds can be found here.

**Thulhaagiri Sandbank** – This private sandbank offers opportunities for snorkeling, diving, and beach walks. Also enjoy a delicious BBQ lunch on the beach here.

**Sunday, December 13**

**Malé / Disembark**

Disembark this morning for a sightseeing tour of Malé. Check in to day rooms at your hotel and enjoy lunch. The remainder of the day and evening are at your leisure. After dinner at the hotel, transfer to the airport for your independent overnight flight.

**Monday, December 14**

**USA**

Arrive in the USA and connect with homeward flights.
GENERAL INFORMATION

INCLUDED: All gratuities; accommodations in hotels and on board Island Sky as outlined in the itinerary; all onboard meals; all group meals on land; arrival and departure transfers on group dates; services of the expedition staff, including lectures, briefings, slide/film shows; all group activities and excursions; landing and port fees; $200,000 in emergency medical evacuation insurance.

NOT INCLUDED: All air transportation; excess baggage charges; airport arrival and departure taxes; transfers for independent arrivals and departures; passport and/or visa fees; baggage/trip cancellation insurance; items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar charges, alcoholic beverages, e-mail/Internet/fax/telephone charges.

SCUBA DIVING: Contact us to pre-register for this activity. Limited to 16 Advance Open Water (AOW) certified scuba divers. You must complete two open water dives within the 12 months prior to the trip’s departure.

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 found in the back of this brochure. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Payment terms will be sent to you with your reservation confirmation from our partner tour operator.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations must be made in writing to the Harvard Alumni Association. At the time we receive your written cancellation, the following penalties apply:

- 120 days or more prior to departure: $750 per person
- 60 through 119 days prior to departure: 50% of the expedition fare
- 1 through 59 days prior to departure: 100% of the expedition fare

Refer to the full terms and conditions at http://alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/sri-lanka-maldives-2015

CHANGES IN ITINERARY AND COSTS: The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of HAA Travels and the tour operator. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfare and currency exchange rates in effect at the time of brochure printing and are subject to change. While the tour operator will do everything possible to maintain the published trip price, it may be necessary to institute a surcharge.

INSURANCE: We highly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. An application for insurance will be provided by the HAA upon confirmation.

RESPONSIBILITY: Certain other provisions apply regarding limitations of liability and rights of HAA and the tour operator. The statement of responsibility is available http://alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/sri-lanka-maldives-2015. If you are not able to access the Internet, please call HAA Travels at 800.422.1636 or 617.496.0806.

DISCLAIMER: Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information presented in this publication. HAA Travels nor the tour operator is responsible for errors in or damages resulting from use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this brochure is subject to change. All rates are per person, quoted in U.S. dollars, and must be paid in U.S. dollars. Rates and itineraries are subject to change.

DECK PLAN

- CATEGORY 6: average 325 square feet with a private balcony
- CATEGORY 5: average 270 square feet with a private balcony
- CATEGORY 4: average 240 square feet with a large window
- CATEGORY 3: average 225 square feet with large window
- CATEGORY 2: average 240 square feet with large window
- CATEGORY 1: average 230 square feet with two to four portholes

elevator, hair dresser, library.

CABIN AMENITIES: Outside views, spacious queen- or twinbed(s), sitting area, en suite bathroom, individually controlled heat/air conditioner, in-room music system, an intercom system for announcements, wardrobe, safe, minibar/refrigerator, TV, hair dryer.
FEATURED LEADERS

An experienced team of leaders and lecturers will join you on this expedition to share their knowledge of the culture and natural history of this region. They will enlighten you through fascinating lectures, guided excursions, and daily recaps.

Mark Brazil

Mark developed a fascination for the natural world, especially birds and mammals, during his boyhood in England. He earned his Ph.D. from Stirling University, Scotland, for his work on avian behavioral-ecology in Iceland and Scotland. Since then, Mark has traveled to all seven continents conducting ornithological research, natural history consultancy for TV companies, and guiding naturalists and wildlife photographers. Mark has traveled widely across Asia, from the Bering Strait to Borneo, and from Nepal to the Ogasawara Islands, and has visited the Indian subcontinent many times. Excited by the fabulous wildlife and cultural diversity of India, Mark returns annually and has lead numerous Indian expeditions.

Shirley Campbell

Dr. Shirley Campbell is an anthropologist specializing in the indigenous peoples of Australia and Papua New Guinea. She holds degrees from Stephens College, Missouri and the Australian National University in Canberra, where she is currently a research fellow. As part of her doctoral research, Shirley lived in a tiny native village for 18 months in the remote Trobriand Islands, speaking only the local language. She has described her research in a book titled, *The Art of Kula*. Shirley has specialized in studying the anthropology of art, convinced that understanding the way people represent their ideas through art and architecture provides valuable insights into our perceptions and relationships with the world around us.

Book your next journey with the HAA today!
Call 800.422.1636 or visit us at alumni.harvard.edu/haa/travel

WILD INDIA
Pre-voyage Extension  NOVEMBER 22 - 29, 2015

After a tour of bustling Delhi travel into the wilderness of Bandhavgarh National Park. Spend three full days exploring this scenically diverse park. In the lowlands of the park, the grassland and bamboo groves provide habitat for leopards, Indian bison, wild boars, and a wealth of deer species—the main prey of the park’s elusive tigers. Birding in the area is phenomenal and we search for such species as green bee-eaters, white-bellied drongos, blossom-headed parakeets, impressive Malabar hornbills, and paradise flycatchers. There will also be an opportunity to visit a small village to witness daily life in rural India.

Price: $4,480 double occupancy; $6,460 single occupancy.
Harvard Alumni Association Worldwide Travel Program

BOOK YOUR NEXT JOURNEY WITH THE HAA TODAY!

CALL 800.422.1636 OR VISIT US AT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/HAA/TRAVEL