The Great American Total Solar Eclipse

April 5–9, 2024
Texas Hill Country

Travel With
Michael Strauss
Chair, Department of Astrophysical Sciences
Princeton University
Dear Princetonian,

On April 8, 2024, a total solar eclipse will cross North America, and Princeton Journeys is pleased to present a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience it alongside Michael Strauss, chair of the Department of Astrophysical Sciences, and your fellow Princetonians at one of the continent’s premier viewing locations, Texas Hill Country. As the moon passes between the sun and the Earth, journeyers will experience a rare 360-degree sunset and will have the opportunity to observe the sun’s ethereal corona for nearly four minutes.

Before and after eclipse day, participants will explore the Hill Country of central Texas. Gather in Austin for an astronomy panel discussion featuring experts from Princeton, the University of Virginia, and Caltech. Enjoy a lunch cruise on Lady Bird Johnson Lake before driving through scenic Hill Country when the bluebonnets are in full bloom. Arrive in time for cocktails and a dinner reception at the historic Hoffman Haus, our accommodations for the next three nights. While here, explore charming Fredericksburg, founded by German immigrants in the 19th century. Visit Enchanted Rock State Natural Area, a massive pink granite dome and one of the largest batholiths in the United States. Tour the William Chris Vineyards, which focuses on low-impact, 100% Texas-grown wine. On April 8, after a morning lecture, gather at our private site on the centerline for one of the most beautiful astronomical events a human can experience.

The next total solar eclipse will not cross the United States until 2044, so we encourage you to reserve your space today on our website: alumni.princeton.edu/journeys.

Questions? Contact us at 609.258.8686 or journeys@princeton.edu.

With kind regards,

Bridget St. Clair
Director
Alumni Education and Travel
Princeton University
MICHAEL STRAUSS joined the Astrophysics faculty at Princeton in 1995; he is now the chair of the department. He and his colleagues carry out surveys of the sky, mapping the cosmos to catalog the myriad of stars, galaxies, asteroids and quasars to answer fundamental questions about the universe. He is particularly interested in the evolution, properties, and large-scale distribution of galaxies. He and his colleagues have discovered some of the most distant quasars known, which we are seeing at a time when the universe was 5% of its present age. He teaches a variety of courses, from introductory astronomy for non-majors to graduate-level cosmology. He is co-author, with Neil deGrasse Tyson and J. Richard Gott, of the best selling book, *Welcome to the Universe: An Astrophysical Tour* (Princeton University Press). Strauss obtained his PhD thesis at the University of California, Berkeley, and carried out observations using telescopes in Chile, just across the Andes from where we will see the eclipse. This will be his second time seeing a total solar eclipse. As an astronomer, he thought he knew what to expect during the great American eclipse in August 2017, but was completely awed and blown away by the spectacle.
Itinerary

DAY 1 Friday, April 5
Austin
Fly independently to Austin, Texas, and transfer to your hotel in the heart of downtown Austin. Gather this evening for an orientation and welcome dinner. J.W. MARRIOTT (D)

DAY 2 Saturday, April 6
Austin / Fredericksburg
Visit the $120 million Austin Central Library overlooking Shoal Creek and Lady Bird Lake. Designed by the leading architectural firm of Lake Flato, the library includes a six-level atrium and rooftop terraces with a dramatic view of Austin's downtown. Here Study Leader Michael Strauss will be joined by professors from Caltech and the University of Virginia for an Astronomy panel discussion.
Cross the James D. Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge to an urban path, meandering along Lady Bird Lake's edge and passing by skyscrapers and cultural attractions. Then embark on a late morning cruise and lunch aboard a private boat on the tranquil waters of Lady Bird Lake. After the cruise, continue to the Texas Hill Country along highways lined with stunning springtime bluebonnets and other wildflowers that stretch for miles. Gather for welcome cocktails and dinner in charming Fredericksburg, founded in 1846 by German settlers. HOFFMAN HAUS (B, L, D)

DAY 3 Sunday, April 7
Fredericksburg / Enchanted Rock / William Chris Vineyards
Travel north of Fredericksburg to the Enchanted Rock State Natural Area. Rising 425 feet above the ground, the Enchanted Rock features a pink granite dome dating from the Proterozoic era. This batholith is one of the largest in the United States and home to more than 500 species of plants. Wildflowers including bluebonnets, Indian paintbrush, coreopsis, bladderpod, and basin bellflower will be in bloom. Take a short walk to the summit for incredible views of Hill Country, then journey to the William Chris Vineyards in Hye, Texas for a tour and lunch. This afternoon enjoy a tour of the National Museum of the Pacific War and Admiral Nimitz Museum. HOFFMAN HAUS (B, L, D)
DAY 4 Monday, April 8
Fredericksburg (Total Solar Eclipse)
After breakfast, gather for the continuation of our lecture series. Transfer to our private eclipse site on the centerline of totality and enjoy a Texas barbecue buffet lunch. The partial eclipse will begin at around 12:15 p.m. and culminate with the Total Solar Eclipse at around 1:32 p.m., with approximately 4 minutes and 23 seconds of totality. Once the celestial excitement abates, celebrate with a glass of champagne. In the afternoon, explore the historic town of Fredericksburg, followed by a festive farewell dinner. HOFFMAN HAUS (B, L, D)

DAY 5 Tuesday, April 9
Fredericksburg / Austin
After breakfast, transfer to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport for flights home. (B)

Accommodations

JW MARRIOTT AUSTIN
Located in the heart of downtown Austin, the JW Marriott Austin offers luxury, comfort and sophisticated amenities. The urban resort features an on-site spa, fitness center, room service, seven bars, four restaurants, and the largest guest rooms in the city with floor-to-ceiling windows. The hotel is located just steps from the best attractions and entertainment options in Austin.

HOFFMAN HAUS, FREDERICKSBURG
Hoffman Haus is a complex of old and new buildings, nestled in a quiet neighborhood just a block from downtown Fredericksburg, Texas. Each room has a style all its own, yet the soothing color palettes, natural fabrics, and mixture of comfortable upholstered furniture and handsome antiques tie the property together into one cohesive vision. Each of the rooms, suites, and houses provide an experience of luxury. Fluffy pillows, enveloping linens, plush mattresses, and modern bathrooms await each guest. Rooms include Hummingbird Farms Lavender bath amenities, free wifi, flat-screen TVs, coffee makers, tea kettles, mini-fridges, and microwaves. Breakfast in bed is a signature service of Hoffman Haus and a seasonal, locally-sourced gourmet breakfast is brought to your room in a picnic basket each morning.

PRE-TRIP EXTENSION April 4-5, 2024
Austin, Texas Tour
Arrive a day early to discover the history, music, culture, and food of Austin, from its Capitol dome to the University of Texas campus, downtown, and the funky neighborhoods known only to locals. Enjoy lunch at one of Austin’s iconic eateries and an artisan beer tasting at a local brewery. This extension includes lunch, transportation, a tour guide, and one night at the JW Marriott.
What to Expect

Average temperatures in Austin and the Texas Hill Country in April can range from 80° and 59° F. There this one relatively long drive to the Texas Hill Country (approximately two and a half hours), which is necessary for the chance to explore the superb wildflowers of Texas, and short drives in the Hill Country to visit a state park and winery. Travel is by motor coach.

PROGRAM NOTE The Texas Hill Country will be a prime location to experience the Great American Total Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024. We will provide an optimal viewing location to experience this phenomenon. Please keep in mind that because viewing the total solar eclipse will be weather dependent, there is always a chance that passengers will not be able to view it or view it only for a short period of time. Neither Royal Adventures nor Princeton Journeys make any guarantees as to the viewing of the total solar eclipse. Keep in mind that unexpected schedule changes could affect the program. Your Tour Director will keep you fully informed of any changes to planned activities. A sense of humor, flexibility, and patience will be greatly appreciated during this program and especially on eclipse day!

Program Cost

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROOM CATEGORY at Hoffman Haus</th>
<th>Per person, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY</th>
<th>Per person, SINGLE OCCUPANCY</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STANDARD QUEEN</td>
<td>$5,825</td>
<td>$7,749</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small breakfast nook, private covered porch 260 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>STANDARD KING</td>
<td>$5,865</td>
<td>$7,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upstairs rooms, private entrance 335-360 sq. ft.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUPERIOR QUEEN</td>
<td>$5,905</td>
<td>$7,829</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private courtyard or porch 368-486 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNIOR SUITE</td>
<td>$5,995</td>
<td>$7,919</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large covered porch, separate living areas 557-672 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>DELUXE COTTAGE KING</td>
<td>$6,075</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stand-alone cottage with large closet space, 504 sq. ft.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUITE</td>
<td>$6,135</td>
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<tr>
<td>Living room, 2 sinks, separate tub, and walk-in shower, 622 sq. ft.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOUSE</td>
<td>$6,185</td>
<td>—</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stand-alone houses, living room, dining area, kitchenette, private porch 685-990 sq. ft.</td>
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PRE-TRIP EXTENSION: Austin City Tour

(Rates include an extra night in Austin and are based on a minimum of 10 guests)
Per person, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY ........................................... $599
Per person, SINGLE OCCUPANCY ........................................ $799

SAMPLE COACH AIRFARE

New York City to Austin roundtrip approximately ................................... $453
(As of August 2022 and subject to change)

AIR ARRANGEMENTS Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. is the preferred provider for airline arrangements for this trip and can help with domestic air arrangements for this trip. Their team can be reached at 800-447-3560. You are welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.
**Terms & Conditions**

**PROGRAM COST INCLUDES** Study leader’s lectures and discussions • Accommodations and meals as specified in the itinerary • Airport transfer for recommended group flight • Welcome dinner in Austin • Professional Tour Director • Entrance Fees • Austin City Cruise on Lady Bird Lake with lunch • Tour and lunch at the William Chris Vineyards • Wine or beer with dinners at the Hoffman Haus • Eclipse site • Eclipse viewing glasses • Motorcoach for excursions • Bottled water on motorcoaches • Baggage handling • Gratuities to waitstaff, guides, drivers and tour directors • Coordination and administration • Pre-departure information.

**PROGRAM COST DOES NOT INCLUDE** Domestic Airfare to and from Austin • Meals not specified in the itinerary • Personal items such as laundry, fax, e-mail, wi-fi, or telephone calls • Liquor • Room service• Private transfers• Fuel Surcharges•Medical expenses • COVID-19 testing and immunizations or quarantine expenses • Travel insurance • Deviations from the scheduled tour • Tickets and guide fee for the optional tour of the National Museum of the Pacific War and the Admiral Nimitz Museum are not included.

**RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS & FINAL PAYMENT**

To reserve your space on this program, a $1,000 deposit is required per person. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. A second deposit of $1,500 per passenger will be due on or before March 7, 2023. Please fill out and mail, e-mail, or fax the registration form. The initial deposit may be charged to a credit card. The second deposit and final payment must be paid via check or wire transfer. Final payment is due December 7, 2023. Royal Adventures handles all invoicing. CST #2009579-40

**CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS**

Cancellations must be received in writing by the Princeton Journeys from the participant. Cancellations within 14 days of booking: full refund; cancellations received up to 120 days prior to departure will be assessed a cancellation fee equal to the full amount of deposits paid. Cancellations received within 120 days prior to departure are subject to a 100% penalty of all deposits and payments, regardless of the booking date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

**A NOTE ABOUT COSTS**

Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

**INSURANCE**

Insurance Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, evacuation, medical problems, baggage loss, delay, etc., is highly recommended. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants. “Cancel for any reason” insurance coverage must be purchased within 14 days following the date of trip confirmation.

**UNIVERSITY DISCLAIMER** Princeton Journeys is pleased to provide this service of facilitating travel opportunities for its alumni and friends. Princeton Journeys strives to work with the best tour operators to make available interesting and enriching travel opportunities for the Princeton family. Please note that the University does not conduct tours, nor does it act as an agent for guests interested in tours. Princeton Journeys acts as a facilitator with tour operators, with whom tour participants make arrangements for completing travel and is pleased to act as a liaison with tour operators should you have any questions or concerns that may arise before, during, or after your tour. Princeton Journeys encourages you to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the tour operator’s cancellation and refund policies, and also to investigate available services such as trip cancellation insurance. The University is not responsible for changes to trips or travel arrangements or for losses or additional expenses resulting from travel.

**RESPONSIBILITY**

Royal Adventures (CST #2009579-40), its owners and employees, act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant, 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 Princeton University and Princeton Journeys (Collectively to herein as “Princeton Journeys”) and Royal Adventures and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability therefor. The Princeton Journeys and Royal Adventures 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, epidemics, pandemics, improper viewing of the eclipse, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, quarantine, force majeure, animal or insect bites, or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. Princeton Journeys and Royal Adventures 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. Princeton Journeys and/or Royal Adventures shall not be deemed to be in breach of these terms and conditions or otherwise be liable to you, and shall not provide any refund, by reason of delay in performance, or by non-performance, of any of our obligations hereunder or under the extent that any such delay or non-performance is due to any Force Majeure Event. A Force Majeure Event, in relation to this tour, shall mean any circumstances beyond our control, including, but without limitation, acts of God, explosion, flood, forceful wind, fire or accident, war or threat of war declared or undeclared, acts of terrorism, sabotage, insurrection, riots, strikes, civil disturbance, sickness, epidemics, pandemics, quarantines, government intervention or other unforeseeable events. Limitations on travel arising from the COVID-19 pandemic shall be considered a Force Majeure Event. If this tour is affected by a Force Majeure Event, the Princeton Journeys and Royal Adventures shall be entitled to, and may in their sole and absolute discretion, vary, cancel or postpone any itinerary or arrangement in relation to this trip. 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, security surcharge, or fuel increases will be passed on to participants. Neither Princeton Journeys nor Royal Adventures accepts the 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. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. Participants agree not to hold Royal Adventures or Princeton Journeys and/or its employees or agents responsible for any expense or loss caused by their failure to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Neither Royal Adventures nor Princeton Journeys make any guarantees as to the viewing of the total solar eclipse. As part of the consideration and right to participate in this tour, each participant will be asked to sign a liability release.

**ACCOMMODATIONS**

I/We have carefully read the Terms and Conditions and Responsibility sections of this brochure and agree to their terms on behalf of myself and of my party named above.

**SIGNATURE**

**DATE**
The Great American Total Solar Eclipse

April 5–9, 2024
TEXAS HILL COUNTRY

Highlights

WITNESS the spectacular 2024 Total Solar Eclipse at a private viewing site on the centerline in the Texas Hill Country in the path of totality.

EMBARK on a cruise of Austin on Lady Bird Johnson Lake.

ENJOY a Texas Barbeque with a special catered lunch.

EXPLORE Enchanted Rock, a stunning 425 foot pink-granite batholith and state park.

TOUR the William Chris Vineyards and enjoy a private catered lunch.

VISIT the National Museum of the Pacific War.

STROLL the streets and peruse the shops of historic Fredericksburg.

WITH Michael Strauss
Chair, Department of Astrophysical Sciences
Princeton University