#### Abercrombie & Kent



# ANCIENT KINGDOMS & DYNASTIES: A JOURNEY BY PRIVATE JET 2025

Our world was shaped by great kingdoms and dynasties whose timeless monuments — from the Roman ruins of Volubilis to Istanbul's Hagia Sophia — come to unforgettable life on this journey, each destination illuminated by peerless expertise and insider access no one else can match.

Small Group Journeys, Private Jet Journeys

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Malta, Turkey, Laos, Cambodia, India, Oman, Tanzania, Morocco,

Malta, Turkey, Laos, Cambodia, 25 days from AU\$226,500 pp

48 Guests

Portugal

## Journey Overview

Our world was shaped by great kingdoms and dynasties whose timeless monuments — from the Roman ruins of Volubilis to Istanbul's Hagia Sophia — come to unforgettable life on this journey, each destination illuminated by peerless expertise and insider access no one else can match. Travel in consummate ease via private jet, a dedicated flight crew and expert tour managers anticipating and attending to your every need, and experience ancient settings from extraordinary new angles, going where few other travellers go and forging lasting bonds with every place you visit.

#### **Journey Highlights**

- Visit Portugal's Fronteira Palace for a private tour and drinks, and watch an exclusive fado performance
- Travel back in time when you explore the souks of Fez, and choose from an array of Design Your Day activities
- Discover the narrow winding streets of Tanzania's Stone Town, the oldest part of Zanzibar City
- In Oman, explore the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque with an expert and learn the art of harvesting frankincense
- Visit Udaipur's temples and palaces and attend a spectacular Bollywood performance
- Explore the Angkor complex, complete with sunrise at Angkor Wat, and dine at a thousand-year-old Hindu temple
- Attend a traditional Laotian music and dance performance, and take part in the timehonoured baci welcome ceremony
- Immerse yourself in Turkey's cosmopolitan Istanbul, privately visiting the Basilica Cistern and cruising the Bosphorus
- Explore Malta's wartime heritage and experience a traditional musical parade given in your honour



## **Itinerary**

#### Oct 4-5: Portugal | Your Journey Begins

Arrive in Lisbon and meet your fellow guests at a cocktail reception and gala dinner. The next morning, ride a private tram to the summit of São Jorge hill and visit the Fronteira Palace for an exclusive tour and drinks. Tonight's dinner is accompanied by some of Lisbon's best fado musicians.

Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon | Meals: D (Oct 4); BLD (Oct 5)

#### Oct 6-8: Morocco | Timeless Fez

Board your private jet for Fez, one of Morocco's main religious, artistic and intellectual centres. Visit Fez el- Jadid, a 13th-century addition to the original medina. Walk the Mellah, the former Jewish quarter, and learn the history of Morocco's Jewish community. The next day, continue exploring in Fez el-Bali, the world's largest living medieval city and the cultural heart of Morocco. Walk some of the 9,000 narrow lanes, alleys and souks that make up the labyrinth of this city's old quarter. Along the main promenade of Fez, stop for an exclusive culinary encounter, an opportunity to learn about and taste some of Morocco's best known specialties. You also visit the tanneries, where leather goods are still produced using techniques little changed since the Middle Ages.

The next day, enjoy your chosen Design Your Day activity:

- **Visit the Archaeological Site of Volubilis**, the best-preserved Roman ruins in northern Africa.
- **Enjoy a Private Shopping Excursion** and browse hand-woven carpets, ceramics and other traditional Moroccan crafts.
- Unwind at a Hammam, a traditional spa combining steam baths and revitalizing fullbody scrubs.
- Learn the Art of Moroccan Cooking with an expert chef, preparing your own tagine.

On your last evening, gather at Dar Batha Museum, formerly a sultan's summer palace, and enjoy a farewell dinner with accompanying Andalusian musical performance.

Palais Faraj Suites & Spa | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 9-11: Tanzania | Exotic Zanzibar

Arrive in Zanzibar, an archipelago off the eastern coast of Africa, with a diverse history shaped by Arab traders, Portuguese colonisation and the British Empire. This heritage is reflected in Stone Town, Zanzibar's UNESCO-listed trading hub. Visit the cathedral, built on the site of a former slave market; the Palace of the Sultans, adorned with treasures and rich carvings; the old Arabic Fort; and Forodhani Park, a shaded respite from the energy of the city. Lastly, stroll a bustling fruit and vegetable market to rub shoulders with locals as they make their daily purchases. The next day, enjoy the Design Your Day activity of your choice.

- Explore Jozani Forest National Park with a guide and look out for numerous species of birds and tree-dwelling monkeys.
- Experience Everyday Life in Zanzibar on a village visit where you see a seaweed farm, meet the village chief, and observe traditional practices like thatching roofs and baking bread.
- **Snorkel Off Mnemba Island** and search for beautiful corals, schools of blue tangs and other tropical fish, and possibly even dolphins or sea turtles.
- Refresh With a Spa Treatment or Go Kayaking at your resort.

Bid farewell to Zanzibar with a festive dinner at your resort.

#### Zuri Zanzibar | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 12-13: Oman | Sultanate of Splendours

Your jet carries you to Salalah in southern Oman, a distinctive blend of natural beauty and rich cultural heritage. Marvel at the architectural splendour of the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, admiring its intricate artwork and stunning stained tiles with insights from an Islamic scholar. Then delve into Salalah's storied past with an exclusive visit to the Al Balid Museum, situated within an archaeological site, and explore the museum's exhibits with the curator. Journey to Wadi Dawkah, nestled within the UNESCO World Heritage Site known as the "Land of Frankincense." Walk among a vast expanse of frankincense trees and witness the time-honoured tradition of frankincense harvesting, still practiced to this day. Have lunch privately in a local village. Tonight's dinner caps off your Oman visit with a musical performance by a local band and harpist, an opportunity to be painted by a henna artist and mesmerizing traditional performances.

Al Baleed Resort Salalah by Anantara | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 14-16: India | Floating Fortresses

Arrive in Udaipur, a city of lakes, palaces, gardens and temples set on the shores of Lake Pichola. Begin with a visit to the opulent City Palace, standing on a crest overlooking the lake, and then proceed to the world-famous Crystal Gallery, which houses rare objects ranging from lamps to washing bowls to writing instruments and even a crystal bed. This evening, gather for a spectacular Bollywood themed banquet where you are served local culinary favourites, with an extravaganza of Indian live music unfolding all around you. Set off to the temples of Eklinji and Nagda, a marble complex spanning over 100 temples dedicated to Shiva and Lord Vishnu, both known for their lavish carvings depicting all aspects of life.

The next day, pursue the Design Your Day activity of your choice:

- **Tour the Vintage and Classic Car Museum** to view an impressive collection ranging from a pristine Model A Ford to a solar-powered rickshaw.
- **Explore the Markets** of Udaipur on a guided shopping expedition, browsing a tremendous variety of handicrafts and artwork.
- **Indulge in a Spa Treatment** at your hotel, choosing a nourishing body wrap, facial or Ayurvedic treatment.

Your intimate farewell dinner features live instrumental music, a perfect conclusion to your stay.

Raffles Udaipur | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 17-19: Cambodia | Khmer Heritage

Fly to the city of Siem Reap, your gateway to some of the most fabulous monuments ever built by mankind, the Khmer temples of Angkor. Begin at Ta Prohm, tucked amid entwined strangler figs and kapok trees, and proceed to other iconic sites including Angkor Thom, Bayon Temple, the Terrace of the Elephants and Baphuon Temple, with its unique animal carving and large reclining Buddha to the west. Tonight includes a Dine Around opportunity that allows you to sample the restaurant of your choice from our hand-picked favourites.

Rise early the next morning and journey to famed Angkor Wat, built during the reign of King Suryavarman II. Witness sunrise over the temple and examine its basreliefs and stone carvings, many said to immortalise the mighty kings' wars. You then take part in your chosen Design Your Day activity.

- **View the Treasures of Angkor National Museum**, a blend of historic artifacts and state-of-the-art multimedia that illuminates the history of the Khmer Empire.
- **Visit Banteay Srei**, an isolated temple miles away from the main Angkor complex, and **the Cambodia Clean Water Project**, an A&K Philanthropy-supported effort to provide clean drinking water for rural communities.
- Cruise by Private Boat on Tonle Sap Lake, taking in the floating homes and markets that make up this village on the water.
- Unwind With a Spa Treatment at your hotel.

This evening, a thousand-year-old Hindu temple is the background for a gala dinner that includes traditional entertainment by Apsara dancers.

Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 20-21: Laos | Jewel of the Mekong

Your private jet delivers you to Luang Prabang, former imperial capital of Laos. Pay a visit to the beautiful Huan Chuan Heritage House, and feast on traditional Lao cuisine while taking in a music and dance performance. The next day, visit Tat Luang Temple, where you are welcomed by a senior abbot and partake in the baci ceremony, Laos' most respectful form of welcome. The ceremony is made more indelible by the accompaniment of music and traditional dance, both integral parts of the ritual.

Locals offer insightful talks about different Lao art forms such as the stencil decorations adorning temples, ceremonial Buddhist offerings, goldwork and textiles. Cruise downstream from Luang Prabang on the mighty Mekong River, sipping Champagne as you watch the warm glow of sunset wash over scenes of local life along the riverbanks.

## La Résidence Phou Vao, A Belmond Hotel, Luang Prabang | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 22-24: Turkey | Continental Crossroads

Your visit to Istanbul begins with a private cocktail reception at Gallada Bosphorus Terrace. The following morning, experience the highlights of this venerable city, starting with a private visit to the Basilica Cistern before it opens to the public. This sixth-century cistern is perhaps the most unusual structure in Istanbul, over two acres in size and featuring hundreds of columns over 25 feet high. Then visit the Hagia Sophia, an awe-inspiring (and groundbreaking) work of architecture. Proceed to the periphery of the ancient city to view the impressive city walls, constructed between 413 and 447 by Theodosius II in time to turn back Attila the Hun. Also admire the exquisite Iznik tiles, set in floral designs at the Ottoman Rustem Pasha Mosque. Following lunch at a seaside restaurant, board a private boat for your leisurely journey on the Bosphorus. This evening, Dine Around at one of the restaurants handpicked by our local experts.

Begin your next day at Topkapi Palace, once the centre of Ottoman government. Explore the palace's grounds, domes, porticos, terraces and great halls and marvel at its exhibits of costumes, china, jewels and manuscripts. During your visit, you also have the opportunity to explore the harem quarters of the palace. After lunch, continue to the Grand Covered Bazaar, where you have time to explore and shop before returning to your hotel. Tonight's farewell dinner includes a Whirling Dervishes performance.

Before departing for Malta, you may opt to explore the 19th-century Dolmabahce Palace, the largest and finest example of Ottoman Baroque architecture in the city and a monument to Turkey's westernisation process.

#### The Peninsula Istanbul | Meals: BLD

#### Oct 25-28: Malta | Island Outpost

Rejoin your private jet for the flight to Malta. Built by the Knights of St. John in the 16th century, Valletta is a fortified city housing a mixture of history and lively present-day culture within its walls. Begin your exploration at the Saluting Battery overlooking the Grand Harbour, and then proceed to the Lascaris War Rooms, an underground complex of tunnels and chambers that proved crucial during the Second World War. The National Library preserves the nation's heritage with collections stretching back to medieval times. Explore this national treasure guided by one of the librarians, and then pay a private after-hours visit to St. John's Co-Cathedral, whose austere exterior stands in drastic contrast to its sumptuous high Baroque interior. In the evening, dine with some of the vested Knights and Dames of Malta, a religious order dating back to the 11th century. Enjoy your chosen Design Your Day the next morning:

- **Visit Medieval Medina**, with its range of Norman, Arabic and Baroque features as well as gates that *Game of Thrones* fans will recognise instantly as the entry to King's Landing.
- **Explore Villa Bologna**, dating back to the late 18th century, to meet the local family and hear their remarkable history in Malta.
- **Learn the Art of Falconry** from a local expert who demonstrates the handling of a variety of hunting birds.
- **Visit Two Temple Excavations** that predate the pyramids and Stonehenge, learning about the site from its curator.

Experience one of Malta's oldest traditions, the village feast, where you are led by a marching band through the streets to experience a specially curated farewell "festa" and dinner at a traditional band club. After breakfast the next day, transfer to the airport for your commercial flight home.

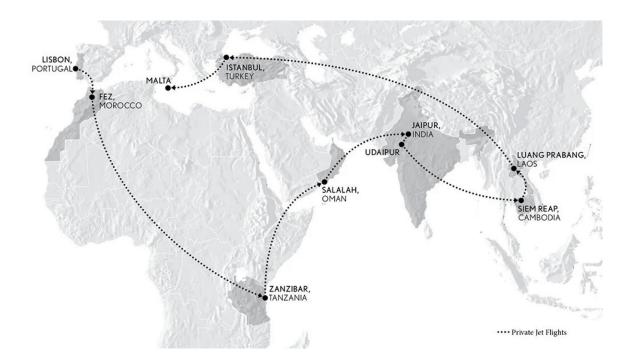
Corinthia Palace Hotel | Meals: BLD (Oct 25-27); B (Oct 28)

#### **Journey Details**

#### **Included with this Private Jet Journey**

- Authentic Insider Access and Exclusive Experiences Made Possible by A&K's Unrivalled Local Expertise
- Dedicated Tour Director, Tour Managers and Local Guides throughout
- Chartered Boeing 757 with Fully Lie-Flat, First-Class Seats with Dedicated Crew and Executive Chef
- Hand-Selected, One-of-a-Kind Accommodations
- A Choice of Activities in Select Destinations with A&K's Design Your Day
- Physician and Photographer Throughout the Entire Journey
- Travelling Bell Boy Luggage Handling
- Traveller's Valet Complimentary Laundry Service (Where Available)
- All Meals with Beverages, Including Custom-Crafted Culinary Experiences and Festive Local Entertainment
- White Glove Passport and Visa Handling Service
- All Gratuities
- Complimentary Internet Access (Where Available)
- 24/7 A&K On-Call Support

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## Accommodation

#### Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon



One of Portugal's premier hotels, Four Seasons Hotel Ritz Lisbon overlooks terracotta rooftops and the twinkling Tagus River from a hill in the heart of "The White City". The 282 rooms feature fresh and elegant décor, enhanced by 18th-century replica furnishings and contemporary Portuguese art. Most come with a private balcony, so you can sip wine in the sunshine whilst spotting the city's historic sites.

Enjoy the panoramic view of Lisbon from the penthouse fitness centre, or gaze out over the park as you dine on the fine cuisine of the acclaimed Varanda Restaurant. The old town is a short stroll down cobbled streets, making Four Seasons Hotel The Ritz Lisbon an ideal base from which to explore this charming capital.

#### Why we like it

- Stunning views of Lisbon
- Only a short walk away from the old town
- Contemporary Portuguese artwork dress the rooms
- A chance to sample rare ports at the Ritz Bar or enjoy afternoon tea in the Almada Negreiros Lounge

#### Palais Faraj Suites & Spa, Fes



Allow the Palais Faraj to take you back in time a thousand years, this grand building with its sumptuous designs and bespoke furniture has the ideal location in the heart of Fes. The Palais Faraj is full of fabulous fountains, intricate arches, carved wood, stucco laces, beautiful marble floors and sacred geometry. This boutique hotel boasts a selection of beautiful suites. Each suite has been designed using the distinguished art of secret alchemy complemented by the latest luxury facilities.

Boasting two restaurants and two bars; the Moroccan Restaurant L'Amandier is one of the best in Fes. As special requests, courses of Fassi cuisine and natural cosmetics of the Moroccan women can be arranged, as well as workshops of brocade weaving, pottery, stucco and zellige uncovering some of the Moroccan traditions.

#### Why we like it

- Experience Fes in refinement and comfort at the Palais Faraj Suites and Spa
- Andalusian large patio and outside swimming pool
- Heated bathroom floors for the winter months
- Moroccan designed and inspired interiors
- Discover Fassi gastronomy, one of the most refined cuisines in the world

#### **Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor**



Raffles Grand Hotel D'Angkor is a grand historic hotel that has been sensitively restored to its original architectural elegance, to offer guests a flavour of colonial times. Located in the heart of Siem Reap, close to the majestic Angkor Wat, it offers convenient access to some of the most intriguing ruins of the temple complex.

The hotel's 120 rooms and suites are tastefully appointed with Art Deco country style furnishings and Cambodian object d'art, reflecting the period architectural theme. Room options range from staterooms and suites to superb two bedroom villas.

#### Why we like it

- Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor is situated only a few kilometres from the ancient Angkor complex
- Dining options include the international buffet at Café d'Angkor, fine dining at Restaurant Le Grand, a barbecue at the Poolside Terrace or an Asian style buffet and Cambodian cultural show at the Apsara Terrace
- Raffles Amrita Spa offers treatments combining the best of Western technologies and Eastern therapies
- A 35m lap pool is inspired by ancient royal bathing pools
- Other facilities include bars and lounges, a library, beautifully landscaped gardens, and, nearby, a wonderful local night market

## Dates & Pricing

Prices are in AUD, per person, based on double occupancy

Oct 4, 2025 - Oct 28, 2025

Price Single Supplement Internal Air (From) Availability

**AU\$226,500 pp** AU\$22,955 Included Available

### Abercrombie & Kent

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