## Exploring the Panama Canal & Beyond with Wendinger Travel February 9 – 16, 2023 **\*** \$3,498 per person

Wendinger Travel invites you to join us on our *Exploring the Panama Canal & Beyond* tour. We'll spend 5-nights in Panama City, located at the crossroads between two continents and two oceans. Then we're headed into the rainforest, where we'll spend 2-nights at a Rainforest Resort tucked away amidst Panama's scenic Soberania National Forest.

While in Panama City, we'll visit Panama Viejo where Pedro Arias de Avila founded the first Spanish City on August 15, 1519. After that we'll travel to the Old Quarter of Casco Viejo, the most colorful and intriguing part of the city, full of historic buildings, quaint plazas, charming sidewalk cafes and museums. We'll also visit the Miraflores Locks Visitor Center to enjoy a presentation by the Panama Canal Authority.

## We'll also enjoy included day excursions to ...

**Panama Canal -** One of the great engineering feats of the 20th century, the Panama Canal accomplished what nature forgot to do, it connected the Atlantic to the Pacific, and reduced the 12,000-mile sailing distance between New York and San Francisco by more than 7,000 miles. Without question, we'll see by far, the best way to experience this magnificent wonder from the deck of a transiting ship on our day-long tour.

**El Valle de Anton** – We'll travel to the picturesque mountain town of El Valle de Anton, which has a geologically unique setting; it's nestled in the second largest volcano crater in the world. El Valle's great variety of attractions includes an Open-Air Handicrafts Market and for the more adventurous travelers in our group, you'll have an opportunity to enjoy an exhilarating Canopy Zipline Adventure.

**Trans-Isthmian Route** – We'll travel across the Isthmus of Panama to the Caribbean province of Colon. Here, we'll visit the Castle of San Lorenzo, built at the mouth of the Chagres River to protect the entrance to the Las Cruces Trail, the 400-year-old colonial trail used by the Spaniards to transport gold across the isthmus that led to Panama City and the Pacific Ocean. Our return to Panama City will be aboard the Trans-Isthmian Train, time to sit back and relax as we take in the views along the magnificent waterways flanked by the rainforest of Soberania National Park.

**Embera Indians** – Leaving Panama City behind, we'll board a motorized piragua, or dugout canoe, and travel to an Embera indigenous village on the shores of Lake Gatun. On arrival, we'll be greeted with music and dancing followed by an introduction to the Embera customs and their relationship with nature. We'll also enjoy a traditional Embera lunch and have an opportunity to be painted with the traditional jagua, a natural dye the Embera use to adorn their bodies.

**Rainforest Resort -** The day is at leisure in our Rainforest Resort designed for you to do as much or as little as you'd like. Work on your tan poolside, or glide through the jungle on an Aerial Tram in neighboring Soberania National Park, a must-see destination for avid bird watchers.

The tour price will include: Round-trip airfare from Minneapolis, hotel accommodations, sightseeing with accompanying Tour Escort, two meals daily, and all airline taxes and fees.



FOR FULL TOUR DETAILS, PRICING, AND A BROCHURE, PLEASE CONTACT WENDINGER TRAVEL AT (507) 359-3111 OR TOLL-FREE (888) 363-9104. EMAIL: <u>SDHOWK@YAHOO.COM</u> or WEBSITE: <u>WWW.WENDINGERTRAVEL.COM</u>