



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sarah Thies
Tel: 800-200-3887
Email: sarah@classicjourneys.com

**Classic Journeys Beckons Adventurers With Thrilling New Trips
On Three Continents**

Destinations making 2009 debut include Zambia, China and Panama

September 18, 2008 – La Jolla, CA – What do the drenching spray of a thundering waterfall, the snowcapped peaks looming above a legendary valley, and the turbulent rapids on a rainforest river have in common? They're featured highlights on the newest itineraries from Classic Journeys, California-based provider of cultural walking adventures, culinary tours and family journeys to 65+ regions worldwide.

"Guests on our new Zambia, China, and Panama trips will definitely experience the call of the wild," observes Edward Piegza, president and co-founder of Classic Journeys. "These destinations are among the most dynamic additions we've ever made to our portfolio."

The company's 10-day [Zambia—Victoria Falls, Villages & Wildlife](#) Cultural Walking Adventure, along with its 10-day [Zambia Family Journey](#), take full advantage of Zambia's highly acclaimed national park system. Within the boundaries of Mosi-oa-Tunya, South Luangwa and Lower Zambezi National Parks, guests on daily guided walking safaris are rewarded with game sightings at every turn.

"In Zambia, the national parks and wildlife sanctuaries don't have fences," explains Natalie Messelt, Tour Operations Coordinator for Africa at Classic Journeys and former resident of Zambia. "The animals are free to roam, which makes them even more accessible to us, sometimes when we least expect it."

Named a World's Best Tour Operator by Travel + Leisure Magazine

Classic Journeys • 7855 Ivanhoe Ave., Ste. 220 • La Jolla, CA 92037
800-200-3887 or 858-454-5004 • fax: 858-454-5770
www.classicjourneys.com • moreinfo@classicjourneys.com

According to Messelt, a long-time coordinator for U.S. Ambassadorial outreach programs on the continent, “Our tours are based on the principles of Norman Carr, the father of the walking safari and a great promoter of peace and harmony among the peoples of Africa.”

When not on foot, guests ride in open-top safari vehicles, including a nighttime expedition to spot nocturnal wildlife. During the day, visits to village schools and colorful markets provide behind-the-scenes insights into Zambian culture. Luxury accommodations include five-star lodges and tent encampments like Chiawa Camp on the banks of the Lower Zambezi (voted one of Africa's Top 10 Safari Camps by *Conde Nast Traveler*).

Like most Classic Journeys, the new 12-day [China—Shanghai to Shangri-La](#) Cultural Walking Adventure juxtaposes modern cities and world-renowned landmarks with rural villages where time seems to stand still. History comes alive on guided walks through the centuries-old *hutongs* of Beijing, along a spectacular, lightly touristed segment of the Great Wall, and at the breathtaking burial site of the terra cotta warriors at Xian. In Shangri-La, the Tibetan mountaintop romanticized by James Hilton in *Lost Horizon*, guests spend three nights at the Banyan Tree Ringha, a five-star boutique hotel and spa fashioned from traditional Tibetan farmhouses. An optional Cruise Extension highlighting the Three Gorges stretch of the Yangtze River is available at the end of the tour.

Natural marvels abound on the company’s 7-day [Panama Cultural Walking Adventure](#) and [Panama Family Journey](#), as well as one that’s manmade: the Panama Canal. On rainforest footpaths, jungle waterways, and zip-lines skimming the treetops, guests receive an up-close look at Panama’s eco-diversity, from the gentle whirr of a hummingbird’s wings to the ear-shattering call of howler monkeys. Luxury accommodations include three nights at Boquete’s Panamonte Inn & Spa at the foot of Baru Volcano (called “the most charming hotel in Panama” by *Travel + Leisure*).

For detailed itineraries, departure dates and pricing, visit www.classicjourneys.com or consult with a Classic Journeys Guest Service Coordinator at (800) 200-3887. For media inquiries, please contact Sarah Thies, Marketing & Communications Manager, at (800) 200-3887 or sarah@classicjourneys.com.

About Classic Journeys

Classic Journeys offers cultural walking adventures, culinary tours and family journeys in North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia and the South Pacific. Guests enjoy luxury accommodations and gourmet meals that reflect the best of each region, coupled with soft adventure activities, daily interactions with locals, and native guides who make countries and cultures come alive. Tours are six to 12 days long with two to four hours of easy-going walking per day. Land-only tour prices range from \$2395 to \$6995 per person (with discounts for small groups and children traveling with parents). Average tour size is 10, limited to a maximum of 18 guests per departure. Full details and links to itineraries are available at www.ClassicJourneys.com.