



INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS

World Leader in Nature Travel

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Lauren Kaufman

Jennifer Friedel

Spring, O'Brien & Co.

(212) 620-710

ALABAMA-BASED INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS NAMED ONE OF “THE BEST ADVENTURE TRAVEL COMPANIES ON EARTH” BY *NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ADVENTURE* MAGAZINE

Ranked A Top Ten Tour Operator in the Magazine’s 2009 “Do-It-All” Category

BIRMINGHAM, AL, January 9, 2009 – International Expeditions, the world leader in nature travel, has been named one of *National Geographic Adventure*’s 2009 “Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth” for the second consecutive year. One of 200 travel companies included on the prestigious list, Alabama-based International Expeditions received one of ten coveted spots in the “Do-It-All” category featuring outfitters who provide travel itineraries around the world and offer limitless expertise.

National Geographic Adventure surveyed, sorted and scored hundreds of tour operators and interviewed their clients to develop a comprehensive guide of the “World’s Best Adventure Travel Companies on Earth,” featured in the magazine’s February 2009 issue. Outfitters were judged on five criteria: education, sustainability, quality of service, spirit of adventure and client satisfaction. International Expeditions received an outstanding overall score of 92.6 (out of 100), and earned a 100 percent client satisfaction rating, a testament to IE’s mission of providing guests with the very best travel experiences.

Top marks for client satisfaction, which was derived by customer assessment of education, sustainability, service and adventure (multiple clients were interviewed for each outfitter), are the result of the company’s 29 years of experience offering innovative and enriching travel programs to the world’s greatest natural and cultural locales.

International Expeditions’ small group journeys are enhanced by the expertise of passionate, dedicated naturalists, historians and botanists. Travelers can choose from compelling small-ship expeditions to the Amazon and Galapagos, or escorted journeys in Belize, Brazil’s Pantanal,

Patagonia, Panama, Costa Rica, Machu Picchu, India and Papua New Guinea. New offerings for 2009 include an Arctic cruise to Spitsbergen and East Greenland, and African adventures to Botswana and Zambia. In addition to safaris in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda, International Expeditions can custom tailor itineraries for Southern and Eastern Africa as well as Central and South America, India and Egypt, enabling travelers who enjoy flexibility to travel where and when they like. The company is also popular for its unique Wings Over the Nile tour, which features the great convenience of flying in a privately chartered de Havilland Dash 7 between stops in Egypt and to Jordan.

Also new in 2009 is the re-launch of International Expeditions' in-depth, interactive Amazon Workshops. During these educational adventures in Earth's greatest classroom, participants enjoy enriching sessions spanning botanical medicine, rainforest ecology and cultural survival of the rainforest people and community. Hands-on projects like planting trees or helping paint a village school are also featured.

Customized student and adult workshops in the Amazon and Belize are also available, featuring community service projects and immersive lessons in tropical biodiversity.

For more information on International Expeditions visit www.IEtravel.com or call 1-800-633-4734.

Founded in 1980, International Expeditions is the World Leader in Nature Travel, specializing in small group and independent journeys to the most exhilarating destinations around the globe. A pioneer of environmentally responsible travel, International Expeditions is committed to preserving natural habitats and improving the welfare of the people and communities it visits.

For more information or an International Expeditions brochure, call an International Expeditions destination specialist at 1-800-633-4734, see your travel agent, e-mail nature@ietravel.com, or visit www.IEtravel.com.

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