Science & Innovation in the Golden State: Los Angeles & Pasadena

with Derrick Pitts, Hon.D
Chief Astronomer, The Franklin Institute

May 13–17, 2020
Dear Friends,

You’ve experienced The Franklin Institute’s interactive exhibitions about science and technology in Philadelphia. Now there’s a new way to explore the world with The Franklin Institute. We’re excited to announce an immersive trip to Southern California to discover leading science sites, from Caltech to SpaceX.

On a journey designed to delight and educate, stargaze at the world-famous Griffith Observatory, nestled in the Hollywood Hills overlooking Los Angeles. Enjoy a private reception at the historic Mt. Wilson Observatory and see one-of-a-kind telescopes. Have special access to the Hale Solar Laboratory, which is not open to the general public. At the Huntington Library, view the original manuscript for Benjamin Franklin’s Autobiography. Get to know astronomy experts and our very own Franklin Institute Awards Laureates.

In addition, we’ll visit private spaceflight company SpaceX, take a special tour the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Caltech, go behind the scenes at the California Science Center to see the Endeavour shuttle up close, and savor California’s famous wines. Accommodations for four nights are at the historic Langham Huntington in lovely Pasadena.

We hope you’ll join us for this extraordinary trip.

Sincerely,

Larry Dubinski
President and CEO of The Franklin Institute

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**TRAVELING WITH YOU**

Derrick Pitts, Hon.D
Chief Astronomer,
The Franklin Institute

Derrick Pitts, Chief Astronomer and Director of the Fels Planetarium at The Franklin Institute, has been an integral part of the Institute since 1978. His signature planetarium shows have been viewed by millions in planetariums around the world. Pitts serves as a scientific consultant to many organizations, has written astronomy columns for newspapers and national magazines, and regularly appears on major international television networks. For more than two decades, Pitts has hosted award-winning astronomy radio programs on Philadelphia’s NPR-affiliate station WHYY 91FM, and he’s been the resident ‘Astro Guy’ for 88.5 WXPN’s ‘Kids’ Corner’ for 25 years. Pitts has also served as a NASA Solar System Ambassador since 2010. He recently completed a 5-year NASA grant-funded project, ‘City Skies; Linking Neighborhoods to NASA Through Urban Observing,’ through which more than 10,000 inner-city children were introduced to astronomy and space science.

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**HIGHLIGHTS**

**ENJOY** special access to SpaceX, which was founded in 2002 to revolutionize space technology, with an insider

**VISIT** the Huntington Library for an exclusive viewing of one of Benjamin Franklin’s manuscripts

**TAKE** a private tour with a staff member at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), and experience a special visit to the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

**STARGAZE** during exclusive receptions at Mt. Wilson and Griffith Observatories

**EXPLORE** the historic Hale Solar Labs during a private visit
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13: DEPARTURE / LOS ANGELES
Depart by air to Los Angeles. Arrive by early afternoon for the included group transfer. This evening, gather for welcome remarks at a special reception at the hotel, followed by a private dinner.

THURSDAY, MAY 14: PASADENA
Today visit the Huntington Library for a tour with the Senior Curator of Science & Technology. We will have an opportunity to see Benjamin Franklin’s hand-written Autobiography, which hasn’t been viewed by the general public in 15 years. Have lunch and a brief tour at Madeline Garden, original home of Cheesewright Studios. Once owned by Caltech, in the 1940s the building housed the institute’s research into nuclear fission. Visit Caltech with a member of the faculty and tour the campus. In the afternoon, we will have a special visit to the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a leading center for robotic exploration of the solar system. Dinner this evening is in a private dining room at Caltech.

FRIDAY, MAY 15: PASADENA
Begin the day with a tour of the California Science Center, the West Coast’s largest hands-on science center and home to the Space Shuttle Endeavour, accompanied by the director of the facility. Afterwards, visit the historic Hale Solar Lab. Built in 1923, this astronomical observatory was the laboratory of George Ellery Hale, who helped develop the discipline of astrophysics in the United States. In the late afternoon, enjoy a private visit to Mt. Wilson Observatory, where a highlight will be a special tasting of Moone-Tsai wines. Dinner is at leisure.

SATURDAY, MAY 16: LOS ANGELES
This morning, visit the laboratories of SpaceX, which are usually closed to the general public, to learn about the company’s groundbreaking work. Have some free time in the afternoon to enjoy the many amenities of our hotel. Early this evening, we’ll venture into the Hollywood Hills for a behind-the-scenes visit to Griffith Observatory. Highlights at this exclusive event will include stargazing and a private wine reception. Afterwards, savor a farewell dinner at a special venue.

SUNDAY, MAY 17: RETURN
Transfer to the Los Angeles International Airport for flights home.

DISCLAIMER: This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Franklin Institute and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.
ACCOMMODATIONS

THE LANGHAM HUNTINGTON, PASADENA

This iconic landmark hotel, originally opened in 1907 as the Hotel Wentworth, is located in charming Pasadena. Railroad mogul Henry Huntington purchased the hotel in 1911 and renovated it with the help of well-known Los Angeles architect Myron Hunt. The Langham’s 379 elegantly furnished rooms, suites, and cottages have expansive views of the surrounding landscape and nearby mountains. Amenities at the hotel include several restaurants, an award-winning spa, a fitness center, and a heated outdoor pool.

PROGRAM RATE

$3,999 per person, double rate
$4,799 single rate

RATE INCLUDES

- Four nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner). Bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Airport/hotel/airport transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Escorted sightseeing by private motor coach and entrance fees for included visits
- Taxes, service, and porterage charges
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE

Airfare; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; excess baggage; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

To reserve a place, please call Arrangements Abroad at phone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944, fax: 212-344-7493; or complete and return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person (of which $500 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Arrangements Abroad. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

Fax

E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Room Preference

Double

Twin

Single (limited availability)

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to Arrangements Abroad)

Credit card

Name on credit card

Credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program (see www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms to review or call for a copy). I/We agree to full payment by check, wire transfer, or credit card 120 days prior to departure. Each participant must sign below.

Signature (required) Date

Signature (required) Date

Front cover: The Griffith Observatory, photo courtesy of Griffith Observatory