

# THE MONARCH MIGRATION

Desert Botanical Garden | Mexico

Led by Elaine McGinn, Director of Planning and Exhibits, and Lepidopterist Dr. Kim Pegram

February 18 - 23, 2020



*Each year, millions of monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) make the journey from North America to Mexico's Sierra Madre Mountains, flying thousands of miles to their winter home. The migration is one of nature's most amazing phenomena. Stand amid the fir-covered mountains and witness this awe-inspiring spectacle firsthand as the monarchs flutter, dip, and swoop overhead. You'll see countless butterflies roosting in the early morning, as well as in flight at midday, feeding on wildflowers, and drinking at streams.*

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover the annual migration of monarchs alongside two experienced Garden leaders, Elaine McGinn, Director of Planning and Exhibits and lepidopterist Dr. Kim Pegram.
- Hike or ride horseback to two monarch sanctuaries, where millions of individual monarch butterflies hang in clusters from the trees, drink from streams, and swirl in the air above.
- Spend time exploring the colonial town of Angangueo.
- Visit the National Museum of Anthropology and History and its impressive collection from Mesoamerican civilizations.
- Explore Chapultepec Park and Alameda Central Park, one of the oldest parks in the Americas.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- Expert naturalist guide
- Accommodations
- Entrance fees
- Land transportation
- Meals & beverages
- Carbon offsetting



## ITINERARY

BLD = BREAKFAST, LUNCH, DINNER

### FEBRUARY 18 - MEXICO CITY

Upon arrival at the airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel situated near the historic district. Individual arrival times into Mexico City are covered in the tour cost. Welcome dinner and program orientation at the hotel. *Overnight at Zocalo Central Hotel. (D)*

### FEBRUARY 19 - ANGANGUEO

Visit the National Museum of Anthropology & History, known as one of the most beautiful and functional museums in the world. It is the home of a valuable collection from the Mesoamerican civilizations, with two floors of exhibit galleries to explore. After your time in the museum, take a short walk in the Chapultepec Park to enjoy the beautiful green space that serves as an oasis for the citizens of Mexico City. After lunch at a local restaurant, depart for the colonial town of Angangueo, located high in the mountains in the state of Michoacan, at approximately 8,400 ft. and about 100 miles west of Mexico City. Check in at Hotel Don Bruno. *Overnight at Hotel Don Bruno. (BLD)*

### FEBRUARY 20 - ANGANGUEO

Located on a high mountain slope near Angangueo lies the Monarch site of El Rosario. This large overwintering colony is located and typically contains well over 100 million adult Monarchs. Additionally, there is a nearby stream where the butterflies may fly at midday to drink water. Trail horses are available for rent to ride up the mountain if needed. *Overnight at Hotel Don Bruno. (BLD)*

### FEBRUARY 21 - ANGANGUEO

After breakfast, ascend into the mountains by walking trail to approximately 10,000 ft. elevation to visit Sierra Chincua, one of several nearby Monarch sites that is more isolated than El Rosario. With a simple picnic lunch on-hand, you'll have the entire day to enjoy and photograph the spectacular Monarchs. Horses will be available to ride as an option instead of walking a portion of the trail to today's site. This day among the Monarchs is typically the most spectacular and moving experience. At the end of the day, visit the market at the site entrance to purchase monarch crafts and food if desired. Return to Hotel Don Bruno for dinner. *Overnight at Hotel Don Bruno. (BLD)*

### FEBRUARY 22 - MEXICO CITY

This morning, depart for Mexico City where you will have lunch at a restaurant near Alameda Central Park. The park is one of the oldest city parks in the Americas. Although the park was created in 1592 by Viceroy Luis de Velasco, it was at one time the site of an Aztec marketplace. In 2012, the park went through an improvement project, including the planting of many trees and native plants. You will also have a bit of time to take in some shopping at the local Mercadeo before checking into your hotel for relaxation. *Overnight at The Green Park Boutique Hotel. (BLD)*

### FEBRUARY 23 - DEPART

Transfer to the airport for your flight home. Breakfast will be included depending on your departure time. Please be aware that you need to be at the airport three hours ahead of your scheduled departure flight time, plus the 30 minute drive to the airport (could be longer if during peak daytime traffic). *(B)*



## ABOUT YOUR LEADERS



### **Dr. Kim Pegram - Lepidopterist**

Dr. Kim Pegram loves butterflies. She spends her days researching their behavior, working on ways to help their populations, and sharing her love and knowledge of butterflies far and wide. Her interest in butterflies started while visiting a butterfly exhibit when she was a teenager. Many years later, she has turned her passion into a career. She works at Desert Botanical Garden as the Insect Ecologist and Exhibit Specialist. She started working there after finishing her Ph.D. in Biology at Arizona State University. Kim hopes to be an excellent resource for learning about the monarch migration and seeing the overwintering sites. Currently she works with monarchs, studying how they interact with milkweeds, the host plant they need to survive.



### **Elaine McGinn**

Elaine McGinn joined the Garden in 1997. In partnership with the executive director and senior staff, she provides leadership in Garden planning and exhibit programs. She has extensive experience in exhibit development and design, master planning and interpretation. During her tenure with Desert Botanical Garden, she has led major exhibit initiatives including new permanent displays, interpretive planning, seasonal butterfly exhibits and annual art exhibitions.

Elaine holds a bachelor's degree from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida, and completed executive leadership work at the University of Michigan. Elaine received a Virginia G. Piper Fellowship in 2009 to study garden design and the exploration of place-making.



## LAND PRICING

**Early Bird Special: \$2,799** (up until May 1, 2019)

**Regular Price: \$2,999**

Cost is based on a group of 7 minimum and includes meals and non-alcoholic beverages, accommodations, and activities as indicated in the itinerary, in-country transportation, full-time guide, all tips/gratuities, carbon offset and departure tax.

Does not include international airfare, or items of a personal nature.

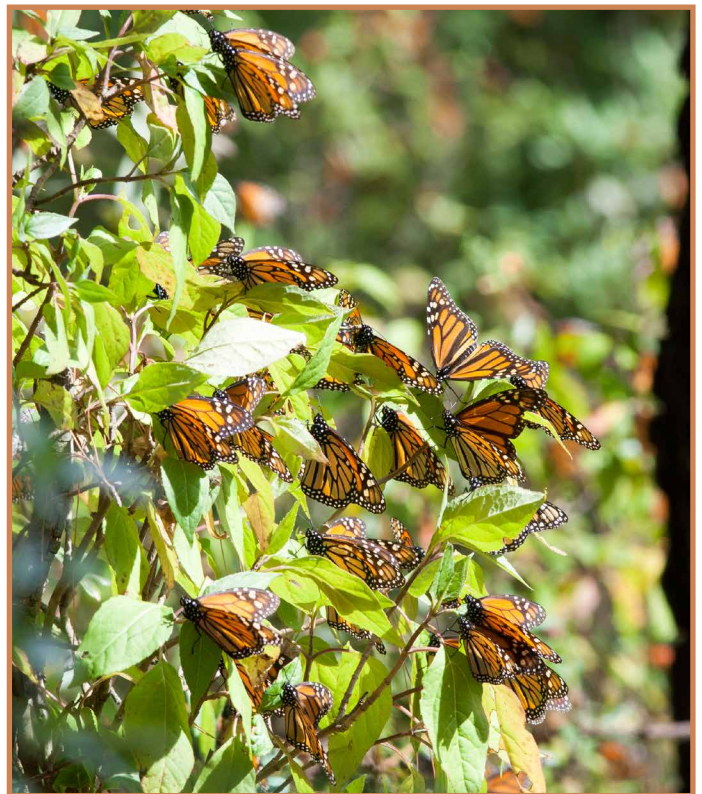
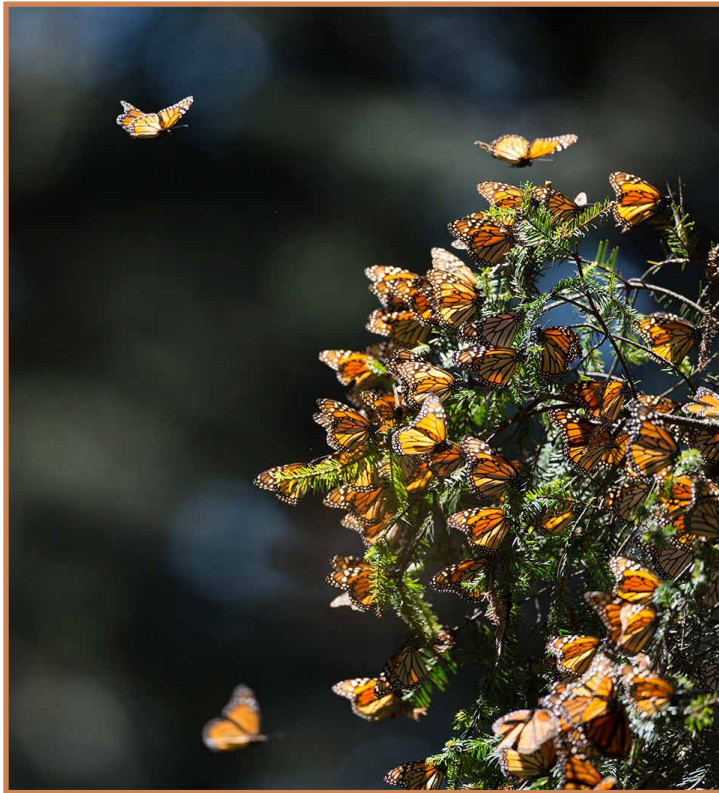
## TRAVEL PROTECTION

Holbrook Travel purchases Travel Protection on behalf of all participants traveling in 2018 or beyond. These plans help provide coverage once the trip has departed and offer benefits for Baggage/Personal Effects, Accident & Sickness Medical Expenses, Emergency Evacuation and more.

Optional additional coverage is available in the form of the Group Deluxe Plan, which offers benefits for Trip Cancellation/Interruption, in addition to many other insurance benefits and non-insurance assistance services. If interested in this optional plan, we can provide you with rates and plan details.

## THE FINE PRINT

*Cost is based on double occupancy; for a single room add \$325 per person. A \$200 per person deposit and enrollment form are required to reserve your space on the trip. This deposit is refundable excluding a \$100 cancellation fee until November 15, 2019 at which time non-refundable final payment is due.*



**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL:**  
*Contact Sandy Schmidt at [schmidt@holbrooktravel.com](mailto:schmidt@holbrooktravel.com)  
or 877-907-5360 or visit [holbrook.travel/desertbg-mx20](http://holbrook.travel/desertbg-mx20)*

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