

# Chernobyl Tour

## July 22 – July 27, 2007

Organized by the Bio-Eco Systems Consortium  
Kiev, Ukraine

We have finally cleared a date for the tour. We were being held up by changes in the Department of Emergency Situations which oversees the Chernobyl site. Because of recent changes in the government, a new minister had to be appointed and things were uncertain until the appropriate political posts were filled. We are approved for the tour for the period Sunday, July 22, until Friday, July 27, 2007.

This tour provides a unique introduction to the Chernobyl Accident and its aftermath. Participants will see firsthand all the key locations in this drama and meet with survivors of this event. They will develop a fuller understanding of the events and of the human drama that followed.

The cost of the land tour is \$1,500 for 5 nights; airfare needs to be handled separately. The \$1,500 includes lodging, meals, guides and local transportation, plus any admission charges. US Citizens no longer need a visa to visit Ukraine. Airfare is hard to quote because it depends on so many variables, but generally runs from \$600 to \$1,200 for economy class. It might be possible to get a group rate if enough people are traveling on the same plane. We can customize this tour to meet the interests of any group.

**DAY 1 (Sunday, July 22) – Arrival in Kiev (Borispol Airport), transportation to the hotel, dinner.**

**DAY 2 (Monday, July 23) – Memories of the Chernobyl Catastrophe**

8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast in Kiev

9:00 - 11:00 Chernobyl Museum in Kiev

11:00 - 13:00 Visit to the major Chernobyl Memorials in Kiev

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch in Kiev

14:00 - 17:00 Lecture on preserving the cultural values that were found in the contaminated zone.

We will see a film about traditions of people, resettled from the contaminated zone and a film about the people resettled from the contaminated zone.

18:00-19:00 Dinner in Kiev

**DAY 3 (Tuesday, July 24) – Visit to the Chernobyl Zone**

8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast in Kiev

9:00 - 11:00 Travel to the Chernobyl Zone via the control point in the village of Dityatki.

11:00 - 12:30 Village of Rozsokhi, the former "Graveyard of Machinery"

12:30 - 14:00 Arrival in the town of Chernobyl and transfer to the hotel. We will have lunch in Chernobyl.

15:00 - 19:00 Visit to the local churches, and acquaintance with local Emergency service and with their efforts to preserve the culture of the affected areas. Visit to the Ethnographic Exhibition in the town of Chernobyl. We will take a bus tour of the town of Chernobyl and its surroundings, including the villages of Prashev, Kpsnovka, Storosilla, and Krasno.

19:00-20:00 Dinner in Chernobyl

**DAY 4 (Wednesday, July 25) – Visit to the Chernobyl Nuclear Plant in town of Pripyat and to the town of Slavutich, the home of the resettled Chernobyl workers.**

8:00- 8:30 Breakfast in Chernobyl.

8:30 - 13:00 Visit to the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station in town of Pripyat and the surrounding areas.

13:00-14:00 Lunch in Chernobyl.

14:00 - 19:00 Travel to the town of Slavutich, transfer to the hotel, attend a meeting with the Mayor, and a visit to one the Medical service department that treats the victims of Chernobyl.

19:00 - 20:00 Dinner in Slavutich.

### **DAY 5 (Thursday, July 26) – Site Seeing in Kiev**

8:00 - 9:00 Breakfast in the town of Slavutich

9:00 - 12:00 Travel to Kiev and transfer to the hotel.

12:00-13:00 Visit to the Ethnographic museum in the village of Pirogovo, where various cultural values, landscapes and architecture from all provinces of Ukraine are presented.

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch at the Pirogovo museum, featuring Ukrainian national cuisine.

14:00 - 17:00 Tour of the village Pirogovo and its surroundings. Visit to the Ethnographic Museum featuring a unique exposition. Performance of the local Folk Ensemble, introduction to the traditions of various Ukrainian regions.

17:30 - 19:00 Gala Dinner in Kiev, Restaurant “Tzarskoe Selo.”

19:00-20:00 Travel to the town of Borispol containing Kiev's international airport.

### **DAY 6 (Friday, July 27) – Departure from Borispol to Airport of Borispol.**

### **OPTIONAL DAY in Kiev**

For an additional \$250 per person, we can arrange an extra day of site seeing in Kiev. This day would include tours of

1. The National Cultural Reserve in Kiev – The Pechersk Lavra including the Monks’ Caves, the Uspensky Cathedral and the Lavra Museum.
2. The Historical Cultural Museum – “Sophia Kyivska.”
3. The Kiev National History Museum

If there are other places you would like to see, we can try to provide links for making such arrangements.

### **Administrative Details**

According to the Ukrainian embassy website: <http://www.ukremb.com/consular/visas.html>, US citizens do not need a visa for this tour. The text reads:

#### ***On introduction of the visa free regime for the US citizens.***

*Please, be informed that on August 18, 2005, the President of Ukraine signed Decree No. 1175/2005, amending the President's Decree No. 1008/2005 of June 30, 2005 on the Ukrainian visa requirements for the citizens of the United States of America.*

*According to the Decree No. 1008/2005 and the amendments to it introduced by the Decree No. 1175/2005 the US citizens do not need a visa to enter Ukraine if the period of their stay does not exceed 90 days.*

*For the US citizens who enter Ukraine with the purpose of employment, permanent residency, study and work at the diplomatic missions of the United States in Ukraine or with any other purpose, if the period of their stay in Ukraine is more than 90 days, visas are required.*

You will need to make travel arrangements to Kiev on your own. Once we get a group assembled we could share travel plans if people would like.

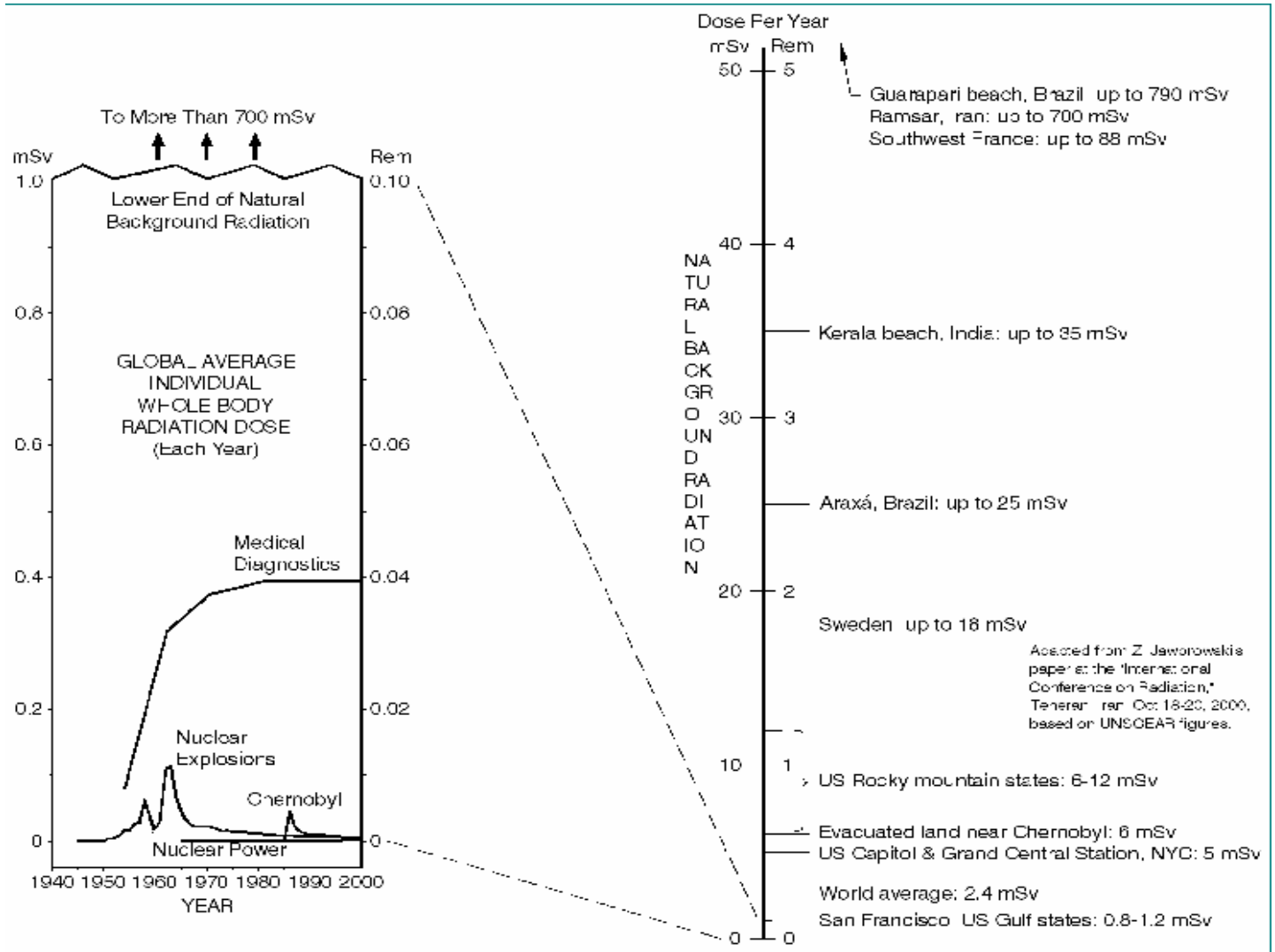
**We recommend that you look into a travel medical insurance of some sort. Ukraine has Soviet style medicine and hospitals. We have been to Ukraine many times without incident, but you might want to consider some sort of medical insurance that includes evacuation in case of a serious event.**

We will also need all sorts of details such as passport numbers, date of birth and other information in order to get clearance for individuals from the Ministry of Emergency Situations. More on this later.

## Possible Hazards Associated with the Trip to Chernobyl

1. There are the usual hazards associated with life and travel. We will be shuttled in minibuses or vans of various sorts, people will be walking on busy streets in Kiev and other places. These risks would be comparable to risks traveling in the US.

2. A natural question is “what are the various radiation levels you would encounter at Chernobyl?” The following chart comes from data compiled by the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR). It is based on the mSv (milliSievert) as the basic unit of radioactive exposure.



From this chart you can see that most of the land around Chernobyl has about 20% more background radioactivity than the US Capitol Building or Grand Central Station, but it has perhaps as much as 50% less radioactivity than some of the US Rocky Mountain states. It is also significantly less radioactive than many parts of Sweden.

Radiation at the Chernobyl site varies with proximity to the reactor. We took the picture below several hundred yards from the damaged reactor. At this point the background radiation would be about 24 mSv per year. Of course, we probably stayed there for all of 15 minutes.



The following picture shows that Chernobyl is a very active worksite with several thousand people working there daily. Except for people in close contact with the reactor, I did not see anybody wearing any protective clothing of any sort. The following picture shows the other side of the reactor and some of the buses that shuttle people to work. Note also, that Chernobyl is a construction site so that one needs to be careful when near active construction.

Finally, the Chernobyl Zone is in the process of becoming a wildlife sanctuary since all sorts of species are finding it conducive to life with the absence of humans. Consequently, there are some possible hazards associated with possibly stumbling upon some wildlife – this is not likely based on my visit in September 2005.

In any event, since Archimedes Group is providing this opportunity, but all of the services will be provided by the Ministry of Emergency Situations, Archimedes Group assumes no liability for this trip. George Markowsky, the President of Archimedes Group, expects to be a member of the July 22 tour, and will be there to facilitate, ultimately delivery is in the hands of the Ukrainian Government, and tour participants should realize that. The last two pages of this document are a liability release for Archimedes Group, LLC.

Since time is short, we need to start collecting the group as soon as possible. Please let me know if you are seriously interested in coming. In that case, please send your name, address, job title, and some background that we can forward to the Ministry of Emergency Situations to begin the clearance process and also to help them line up the right staff for the tour.



Workers and Shuttle Buses on the Other Side of the Stricken Chernobyl Plant

## ARCHIMEDES GROUP, LLC

### CHERNOBYL TOUR LIABILITY RELEASE

Archimedes Group, LLC (“Archimedes”) is dedicated to developing future technologies. Developing future technologies sometimes involves understanding important events from the past. With its extensive contacts in the Ukraine, Archimedes has assembled a unique opportunity to introduce creative and interested individuals to the Chernobyl Accident and its aftermath. The tour enables participants to develop a fuller understanding of the events of Chernobyl, technological and anthropological, and of the human drama that followed. Although the tour and the area are not unsafe, travel in the Ukraine undeniably presents risks greater than those encountered everyday in much of the United States. There are some who also remain skeptical of lasting effects of the accident. Archimedes and its sponsors are therefore unable to assist in providing this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity without an understanding from tour participants that they are willing to assume responsibility for the risks of travel in foreign lands and they will not hold Archimedes responsible for unfortunate accidents or unanticipated consequences.

By your signature below, you therefore acknowledge and agree on behalf of yourself and your heirs, personal representatives, estate, insurers, and assigns, as follows:

- 1. Definition of “Chernobyl Tour.”** For purposes of this release, the term “Chernobyl Tour” is broadly defined to mean every event or occurrence happening anywhere in the world having anything to do with (i) my considering participation in a trip to Chernobyl, (ii) my signing up for and preparing for such a trip, (iii) the trip itself starting from wherever in the world I begin, to wherever I go and wherever it ends, and (iv) all events or occurrences after the trip to the extent the event or occurrence is caused by or is the result of the trip.
- 2. Persons to whom this release applies.** This release is legally binding upon me, my heirs, personal representatives, estate, assigns, insurers, and anyone else who may claim, or who may purport to claim by, through, or on behalf of me (hereinafter the “Releasers”). This release applies to and is for the benefit of Archimedes, its owners, members, managers, officers, directors, employees, representatives, and agents of every kind, including its principal George Markowsky, his heirs, personal representatives, and assigns, as well as companies affiliated with Archimedes, including without limitation Ayers Island, LLC, Global Threats, LLC, and Trefoil Corporation (all such persons and entities hereinafter referred to individually as a “Releasee” and collectively as the “Releasees”).
- 3. Definition of “Claim”.** For purposes of this release, the term “Claim” is broadly defined to mean any claim, liability, cause of action, fee, damage, suit, charge, claim, demand, loss, expense, or dispute of any kind or nature, arising or asserted under any law, common law, statute, code, rule, regulation, practice, convention, treaty or otherwise, relating in any way whatsoever to the Chernobyl Tour.
- 4. Release and promise not to violate the terms of this release.** On behalf of myself and all other Releasers, I hereby promise and agree (A) to hold harmless and forever release any and all Releasees from any and all Claims, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION ANY CLAIM ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO ANY ALLEGED NEGLIGENT ACT OR OMISSION OF ANY RELEASEE, and (B) that no Releaser shall assert, make, prosecute, serve, file, or otherwise bring any Claim against any Releasee.
- 5. Choice of law and venue.** This release shall be interpreted according to the laws of the State of Maine, the state of incorporation and domicile of Archimedes, without regard to choice of law rules. I agree for myself and all other Releasers that if despite the promise in Section 4 above, a Releaser nonetheless files a lawsuit against a Releasee challenging this release or otherwise relating to the Chernobyl Tour, the lawsuit will and must be filed in a court of competent jurisdiction in Penobscot County, State of Maine, and no Releaser will thereafter seek a change of venue or otherwise take the position that the case should not be adjudicated fully in Maine, regardless of where any Releaser lives or any event or occurrence transpired that is the purported subject of the litigation.
- 6. Promise to indemnify for any violation of this release.** On behalf of myself, my heirs,

personal representatives, and estate, I agree and promise to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless all Releasees from, for, and against, any breach or violation of the preceding Sections 4 or 5 by any Releasor, such indemnity to include without limitation reasonable paralegal and attorneys' fees and all damages (compensatory, consequential, incidental, economic, or otherwise) suffered or incurred by the Releasor as a result of the breach or violation by the Releasor of this release.

**7. Severability.** The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision (or part thereof) of this release shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision (or any other part thereof of hereof), and I agree that this release will be construed as if the invalid or unenforceable provision (or part thereof) were never included herein.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THE FOREGOING AND THAT I UNDERSTAND IT IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND PROMISE TO INDEMNIFY IN THE EVENT A RELASOR VIOLATES THE TERMS OF THIS RELEASE.

Signature of Tour Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness

To Signature Of Tour Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Witness: \_\_\_\_\_