Treasures of the Classical World
A Voyage to Ancient Cities of the Mediterranean

September 22 - October 6, 2011

Aboard the All-Suite, 114-Guest Corinthian II

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THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

The group of study leaders assembled for this voyage is prepared to tell the story of the Mediterranean world from the earliest times to the present day. Kyle McCarter of Johns Hopkins will focus on the interplay of myth and history in the ancient world, particularly as it relates to Minoan, Phoenician, and Greek sites we visit. Yale’s Roberta Frank and Walter Goffart will focus on the Crusades, Vikings in the Mediterranean, and the evocation of the Hellenistic world in twentieth-century Greek poetry.

JOHNS HOPKINS STUDY LEADER

**P. KYLE McCARTER** is the William Foxwell Albright Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Studies at the Johns Hopkins University. After receiving his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard, he taught briefly at Harvard, Dartmouth, and, for 11 years, at the University of Virginia before coming to Hopkins in 1985. His primary research interests include the languages, history, and material culture of the ancient Near East, and he has published numerous books and articles on these subjects. His current work has a special focus on the study of ancient inscriptions and manuscripts, and he serves as epigrapher to a number of archaeological field projects. On this program, Professor McCarter will be our guide to the ancient Minoans, Phoenicians, Greeks, and Romans.

OTHER ONBOARD LECTURERS

**ROBERTA FRANK**, the Marie Borroff Professor of English at Yale and a specialist in medieval literature, has written on the verse of the Vikings (some of whom sailed to Athens, Crete, and Rhodes), on literature and archaeology, and on “barbaric” styles. She has an abiding curiosity about the eastern Mediterranean in Hellenistic times, and its afterlife in twentieth-century fiction and poetry.

**WALTER GOFFART**, former professor of medieval history at the University of Toronto, is now a Senior Research Scholar in Yale’s History Department. He is the author of the prizewinning *Narrators of Barbarian History* (1988) and many other books, including *Rome’s Fall and After* (1989) and *Historical Atlases: the First 300 Years* (2003). He has traveled widely in the Mediterranean and is looking forward to revisiting old haunts.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL US AT 800-548-5481
Dear Alumni and Friends,

This fall, we’ll be narrating an extraordinary tale of the ancient world via a classic Mediterranean voyage aboard the 114-guest, all-suite *Corinthian II*, to Greece, southern Italy, the Aeolian Islands, Sicily, Malta, and the Turquoise Coast of Turkey.

It begins in Athens, with a night in the city’s finest hotel, and the Acropolis shining high above. The next day, we’ll sail through the steep chasm of the Corinth Canal. From this 20th-century engineering triumph, you’ll see striations of the ancient stone, just as we will be descending into the layers of the past.

We’ll come to Delphi, where the Pythian oracle dwelled, breathing in fumes to riddle the future. From the Navel of the World she said, “You will go to the most westerly reach of Greece, which is Italy. Then ask the Keeper of the Four Winds which way is next.” So we’ll tack toward Reggio di Calabria, at the toe of the boot, to gaze upon the Riace Bronzes, and explore the dramatic vistas of volcanic Lipari, the most stunning of the Aeolian Isles, which was founded by colonists from Rhodes in 600 B.C.

The oracle said, “You will drink sweet wine and learn of the bitter war.” So we will go to Sicily, to Marsala, and see the immense Greek temples of Selinunte. One of the most pivotal cities in the classical world, it received colonists from Rhodes, battled Carthaginians and its own tyrants, enlisted Spartans, and sparked the tumultuous conclusion of the Peloponnesian War.

After a day upon the bastions of the Hospitaller Knights in Malta, we’ll arrive in the Peloponnese in southern Greece for Byzantine Mystra, built upon a rocky spur overlooking ancient and modern Sparta.

“You will seek further beginnings.” We’ll sail to Crete, and step inside the Palace of Knossos, the finest achievement of the incredible Minoan civilization and home of the labyrinth, then take donkeys up the Acropolis of Lindos in Rhodes, to describe the ruins of its great school of rhetoric, where Julius Caesar learned oration.

The sibyl said, “Ares is spent; go seek love.” So we turn to Turkish shores, to Aphrodisias, an entire ancient city dedicated to the goddess of love, and then to the astounding ruins of Ephesus, once second only to Rome in magnificence.

We are thrilled that Johns Hopkins lecturer Kyle McCarter, the William Foxwell Albright Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Studies, will join us. Having led other alumni journeys to the Mediterranean, he is sure to add immeasurably to your enjoyment of the trip.

Throughout, we’ll have superb lecturers and area experts, excellent cuisine, and fine all-suite accommodations aboard the elegant *Corinthian II*. It’s a journey of spectacular sites and gorgeous scenery—plus some great stories to tell. We hope you can join us.

Sincerely,

Marguerite Ingalls Jones, A&S ’74, Bus ’88
Travel Program Director, The Johns Hopkins University

Cover: The great site of Ephesus contains well-preserved monuments from the Hellenistic and Roman periods
For reservations or information, please call us at 800-548-5481

Itinerary

Thursday, September 22, 2011 • FLY FROM USA

Friday, September 23 • ATHENS, Greece
Upon arrival, transfer to the King George Palace Hotel. Enjoy a cocktail reception at the hotel this evening.

Saturday, September 24 • ATHENS | PIRAEUS | EMBARK
The birthplace of Western culture, Athens boasts a plethora of historic monuments. Tour the Acropolis, including the Erechtheion and the majestic Parthenon. After lunch at a taverna, continue to the stunning new Acropolis Museum before embarking Corinthian II. Later today, transit the narrow Corinth Canal, which cuts across the isthmus linking the Peloponnese to mainland Greece. A feat of engineering, the canal was constructed between 1882 and 1893, carved out of clay, limestone, and alluvium to create a passage between the Gulf of Corinth and the Saronic Gulf. (B, L, D)

Sunday, September 25 • ITEA | DELPHI | ITEA
From the harbor at Itea, drive through lush olive groves up to ancient Delphi, one of the most impressive sites in Greece. For a thousand years it was the center of the worship of Apollo and famed throughout the ancient world for its oracle. Our visit of the site begins at the Castalian Spring and continues up the Sacred Way, past the Treasury of the Athenians, Temple of Apollo, theater, and stadium. Also visit the Archaeological Museum, which contains the famous bronze statue of the Charioteer and other important sculpture and artifacts. (B, L, D)

Monday, September 26 • REGGIO DI CALABRIA, Italy
One of the earliest ancient Greek settlements in mainland Italy, Reggio is built on the Straits of Messina facing Sicily. Visit the National Museum of Magna Graecia, one of the largest museums of ancient Greek art, to see the two famed Riace Bronzes, life-size bronze statues recovered from the bottom of the sea. Drive through the Lungomare, the seaside esplanade described “as the most beautiful kilometer in Italy,” to the private Piccolo Museo di San Paolo, which houses a splendid collection of icons and other religious art. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, September 27 • LIPARI, Aeolian Islands
Inhabited since the Neolithic Age, and coveted by Greeks (who colonized Lipari in 600 B.C.), Carthaginians, Romans, and others, the seven Aeolian islands are named after Aeolus, the Greek god of the winds. In addition to having important archaeological remains, lovely Lipari features an attractive and picturesque town, with its balconied houses and narrow streets. Tour the extensive excavations that have revealed successive remains from the prehistoric period, and visit the superb nearby museum. Also, spend time at leisure to explore Lipari’s town on your own. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, September 28 • MARSALA | SELINUNTE | MOTYA | MARSALA, Sicily
Located on the southwest corner of Sicily, and famed for its vineyards that produce the
eponymous dessert wine, pleasant Marsala is our gateway to splendid ancient Greek and Phoenician sites. In the morning, drive to Selinunte, the most westerly ancient Greek colony in Sicily. A highland overlooking the sea provides a tranquil setting for the expansive ruins of what was once among the island’s most progressive cities. Spend the afternoon at leisure in Marsala to explore its 16th-century architecture. Alternatively, explore Motya, founded by Phoenicians in the 8th century B.C. as a commercial base. Its museum exhibits superb sculptures. (B, L, D)

Thursday, September 29 • VALLETTA, Malta
Rich in prehistoric remains, the island of Malta became the home of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John after they were expelled from Rhodes. Ruled successively by the Phoenicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, and the Order of the Knights of Saint John of Jerusalem, Valletta’s hundreds of monuments make it one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world. Tour Valletta’s medieval landmarks, including the Grand Master’s Palace and St. John’s Co-Cathedral. In the afternoon, tour the National Museum of Archaeology and the Tarxien Temples, Malta’s most important megalithic structures. (B, L, D)

Friday, September 30 • AT SEA (B, L, D)

Saturday, October 1 • GYTHEION | SPARTA | MYSTRA | GYTHEION, Peloponnese, Greece
Built between its beautiful waterfront and a steep hill, Gytheion is the port of ancient and modern Sparta, and according to legend, the place from where Helen fled with Paris to Troy. Today, the area around Gytheion is known for its excellent olive oil. Drive inland to Mystra, the best surviving Byzantine town in Greece (14th to 15th centuries), built on a rocky spur. A great center of learning, art, and culture, Mystra is dominated by its ramparts, palaces, and the graceful domes of its churches, many of which contain frescoes. After exploring this enchanting place, continue to Sparta to visit the Archaeological Museum, which exhibits artifacts from the fabled ancient city. (B, L, D)

Sunday, October 2 • HERAKLION | KNOSSOS | HERAKLION, Crete
Crete, Zeus’s legendary birthplace, was home to the Minoan civilization, Europe’s first advanced civilization, which flourished during the Bronze Age. Visit the excavations at Knossos, where the Minoans’ brilliance and sophistication are revealed. The largest palace of the period on Crete, it is a labyrinth of chambers with frescoes
In an era of mega cruise ships that carry thousands of passengers, the Corinthian II is a delightful alternative. More like a private yacht than a cruise ship, Corinthian II accommodates only 114 guests in 57 suites. Corinthians II limited guest capacity, fine facilities, and distinctive style of operation attract like-minded travelers who return again and again to enjoy its custom-crafted itineraries and a style of cruising that is rarely found today. More than just a cruise, each voyage provides a comprehensive experience that reveals the singular aspects of the destinations. Aboard, a sense of community and a spirit of camaraderie prevail.

All of Corinthian II's suites face outside, providing views of the sea and landscape. Several have a private balcony. There are expansive open deck areas and other facilities, including a gym, library, beauty salon, two lounges, a sun deck with Jacuzzi, and an outdoor cafe. A spacious restaurant accommodates all guests in an open, unassigned seating. The cuisine is outstanding, and the overall service is efficient and friendly while unobtrusive. An elevator serves all decks. A resident physician attends a well-equipped infirmary. Served by 70 seasoned officers and crew, Corinthian II complies with the latest international safety regulations and is outfitted with the most current navigational technology.

Monday, October 3 • RHODES | LINDOS | RHODES
The island of Rhodes was known in antiquity for its schools of philosophy, rhetoric, and sculpture. Explore the Old Town, one of Europe’s largest medieval towns. Walk along the Street of the Knights, replete with mosaics, carved portals, and coats of arms. Visit the Archaeological Museum, housed in the former Knights’ Great Hospital. Also travel to picturesque Lindos. Sit high above the village, with stunning Aegean views, are the remains of the Acropolis and the Doric columns of Athena’s Temple. Corinthian II will remain docked in Rhodes overnight, giving the opportunity to enjoy the lively nightlife of the Old Town of Rhodes, just a short walk from where the ship will be docked. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, October 4 • MARMARIS | APHRODISIAS or CAUNOS | MARMARIS, Turkey
Crossing the short channel that separates Rhodes from southern Turkey, call at Marmaris for a full-day excursion to spectacular Aphrodisias, the ancient city dedicated to Aphrodite, the goddess of love. Occupied since about 5800 B.C., Aphrodisias reached the height of its prosperity during the Roman period, when its school of sculpture acquired great fame throughout the empire. The excellence of the city’s sculptors can be seen in the extensive excavated and restored buildings. Alternatively, in the morning, explore Caunos, an ancient city built by a river that features, among other remains, elaborate Lycian rock-tombs, and spend the afternoon at leisure in Marmaris. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, October 5 • KUSADASI | EPSUS | KUSADASI
From Kusadasi on Turkey’s Aegean coast, drive to the ancient city of Ephesus, renowned for its great mother-goddess, Cybele, later identified as Artemis, or Diana of the Ephesians. Ephesus was for a time the most important commercial city in Asia Minor. The immense Hellenistic and Roman excavation site includes the ancient theater, the imposing Library of Celsus, the hill houses with their fantastic mosaics and frescoes, and early Byzantine remains. (B, L, D)

Thursday, October 6 • PIRAEUS | DIEMBARK | ATHENS, Greece | FLY TO USA (B)
All accommodations aboard Corinthian II are suites. They face outside, affording sea views, and several have balconies with sliding doors. All include two twin-size beds that can convert to a queen-size bed, sitting area, mini-refrigerator, safe, spacious closets, climate control, telephone, TV, DVD/CD player, and bathroom with marble vanity, shower, and other amenities.

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<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 250 - 252</td>
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<td>VS</td>
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<td>PHS</td>
<td>Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. Suites 601 - 604</td>
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VS & PHS suites are provided with private butler service and other exclusive amenities.

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

A limited number of cabins in Categories C - A have been set aside for single occupancy at NO SUPPLEMENT. Once these cabins are filled, cabins for single occupancy may be available at a supplement of $2,395.
REGISTRATION
JOHN 11425

For further information, please call Travel Dynamics International at (800) 257-5767 or Johns Hopkins Alumni at (800) 548-5481. Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $________ ($1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold ____ place(s) on Treasures of the Classical World. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check only. Please make check payable to and mail with this registration form to:

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Please select cabin category in order of preference:

PHS__ VS__ AA__ A__ B__ C__ D__ E__

Twin Beds  Double Bed

Single Occupancy  Share (cannot be guaranteed)

Membership in the Alumni Association is a requirement for participation.

Please send me an application.

Note: A small portion of the cost of your trip supports the Johns Hopkins Alumni Travel Program.

A vivid fresco in Knossos, Crete

Program Inclusions

• 1-night stay at the King George Palace Hotel in Athens, with breakfast
• 12-night cruise aboard the all-suite, 114-guest Corinthian II
• Complete program of tours and excursions
• Welcome cocktail reception at the hotel in Athens
• Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
• All meals aboard ship, including house wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
• Open bar aboard ship throughout the cruise
• Educational program of lectures and discussions by accompanying study leaders
• Professional Travel Dynamics International tour staff
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• Gratuities to porters, guides, and drivers

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; visa and passport fees (if applicable); luggage and trip cancellation insurance; meals, soft drinks, and alcoholic beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel.
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy a walk through the Plaka in Athens as well as a visit to the magnificent new Acropolis Museum
- Drive through lush olive groves to Delphi, Apollo’s sanctuary
- Admire Reggio di Calabria’s incredible Riace Bronzes, considered among the finest statues to have survived from classical Greece
- Explore Lipari, one of the stunning volcanic isles of Italy’s Aeolian Archipelago
- See the famous Bull Leaper fresco in the Heraklion Museum on Crete
- Discover Aphrodisias, renowned in antiquity for the excellence of its sculpted temples
- Visit the first-century B.C. Terrace Houses in the grand ancient city of Ephesus

For reservations or further information, please contact
TRAVEL DYNAMICS INTERNATIONAL
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