Journey of Odysseus

Retracing the Odyssey Through the Ancient Mediterranean

Aboard the All-Suite, 57-Cabin Corinthian II

June 19 - 30, 2008
Professor Richard Sacks has been teaching the Homeric Odyssey at Columbia since 1978, when he first joined its faculty of English and Comparative Literature after receiving his A.B. and Ph.D. from Harvard. His areas of specialization include ancient and medieval myth and epic (especially Greek, Celtic and Germanic), and his research includes a 1987 book on Homeric poetry (The Traditional Phrase in Homer: Two Studies in Form, Meaning and Interpretation), as well as articles and lectures on ancient and medieval poetry and linguistics, and on 20th-century epic. Professor Sacks has also served terms as Director of the First-Year Writing Program in Columbia College, as the university’s Director of Academic Computing and Networking, and as Executive Director of Information Technology and Adjunct Professor of Management Information Systems at the Columbia Business School. Awards he has received include fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies, as well as a Distinguished Teaching Award from Columbia. His lectures to general audiences include venues ranging from the Metropolitan Museum of Art to the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington D.C., as well as various Columbia alumni programs, most recently a 2006 Columbia College Day presentation in Washington D.C. on the Odyssey. He has also regularly been asked to give lectures to the faculty of Columbia’s Core Curriculum on the challenges of teaching the Iliad and Odyssey.

Guest Lecturers

Jeffrey M. Hurwit is Professor of Art History at the University of Oregon and one of this country’s leading scholars of ancient Greek art. The recipient of many prestigious awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship, he is the author of numerous works on the art and civilization of Archaic and Classical Greece. Professor Hurwit has frequently studied in Greece and Italy, has spoken widely across the United States and Canada on his research, and currently serves on the Publications Committee of the Getty Research Institute.

Herman Sinaiko is Professor of Humanities in the College and the Graduate Division of the Humanities at the University of Chicago. He received his undergraduate degrees from the University, and has taught there for more than 30 years. Professor Sinaiko is known to generations of students for his special interest in and love for the philosophy and literature of ancient Greece, particularly Homer’s epics and Plato’s dialogues. His lively and inspiring classes won him the Quantrell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

James Wiseman is the founder of the Department of Archaeology at Boston University, where he is the Founder’s Professor of Archaeology and a Professor of Art History and Classics. He is the Founding Editor of the Journal of Field Archaeology. He served two terms as President of the Archaeological Institute of America, and in 2008, will be awarded the AIA’s Gold Medal for Distinguished Archaeological Achievement. His recent research interests include archaeology of the Roman provinces, trade and economy during the Roman Empire, the archaeology of Greek and Roman religion, town and countryside in classical antiquity, and late antiquity in the Mediterranean.
Dear Fellow Columbian,

Nearly 3,000 years after Homer first recounted the legend of *The Odyssey*, his story still inspires the spirit of exploration. Homer's epic account of Odysseus' journey home after the fall of Troy is more than just a poem for the literati—it is a beacon to the adventurer. *The Odyssey* is still the ultimate journey, and many of its pinnacle sites not only persist in the collective imagination, but even now wait to awe a new generation of travelers. The islands Odysseus visited, the caverns he explored and the mountain peaks he climbed are among the most magical places in the Mediterranean.

Join us as we trace Odysseus' path from the burning towers of Troy to the enchanted realms of gods and nymphs. We begin our epic journey in Athens, sailing toward Troy, the legendary site of the Trojan War, the city that guarded the strategic narrows of the Hellespont. We call upon ancient Delos, birthplace of Apollo and Artemis; Pylos, with its Palace of Nestor; the island of Gozo, where the nymph Calypso entrapped Odysseus; and Trapani, Sicily, the abode of the man-eating Laestrygonians. The adventure continues as we discover the Phlegraean Fields outside Naples, where Odysseus faced the Cyclops, and Sicily's Taormina, the one-time Kingdom of Helios, before landing safely in Ithaca, Odysseus' long-sought home.

As we follow Odysseus’ fabled route, enhance your travel experience with our expert guest study leaders. This summer we'll be joined by Professor Richard Sacks, who has been teaching the Homeric Odyssey at Columbia University since 1978 and is the author of *The Traditional Phrase in Homer: Two Studies in Form, Meaning and Interpretation*; Professor Jeffrey Hurwit, Professor of Art History at the University of Oregon and among the leading scholars of ancient Greek art; Professor Herman Sinaiko, Professor of Humanities at the University of Chicago; and Dr. James Wiseman, the esteemed Professor of Archaeology, Art History, and Classics at Boston University. Together, these scholars promise to help contextualize all the fascinating things you'll see, enriching an already sumptuous adventure.

Your home for this odyssey will be the elegant *Corinthian II*, the perfect cruise ship for travelling far, but docking close. We will be joined by participants from our cosponsors, including the Archaeological Institute of America, the University of Chicago, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Please join Professor Sacks, alumni and friends June 19-30, 2008 as we sail in the wake of Odysseus!

Sincerely,

Eric J. Furda '94TC
Vice President for Alumni Relations

Telephone: 866-325-8664 • E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

*Front Cover: A scene from a vase depicting a Siren and Odysseus tied to the mast of his ship, 500 B.C.*

*Left: Taormina’s grandly situated ancient theater*
The entrance to Vathy, Ithaca, Odysseus’ long-sought home
However, what especially commends this site is its setting: the ruins stand in majestic solitude atop a bucolic hill with virtually no modern-day structures marring the vista, making it easy to imagine what Sicily was like in ancient times. (B, L, D)

Friday, June 27

NAPLES | POMPEII OR PHLEGREAN FIELDS: LAND OF THE CYCLOPS | NAPLES

Drive to the Phlegrean Fields, where Odysseus and his men confronted and were captured by Polyphemus, the Cyclops. Continue on past Lago d’Averno, the ancient Avernus Lake, home of the Cimmerians in The Odyssey, and Lago di Fusaro, the ancient Archerusian Lake, where Odysseus entered Hades. Arrive at Monte di Cuma and the cave of the Sibyl of Cumae who prophesied the future. Alternatively, visit Pompeii, the fabled city both destroyed and preserved by the eruption of Mt. Vesuvius in A.D. 79. After lunch, visit the Archaeological Museum in Naples. (B, L, D)

Saturday, June 28

MESSINA | TAORMINA: THE KINGDOM OF HELIOS | MESSINA, SICILY

Cross the Strait of Messina, the site of the legendary jaws of Scylla, a terrifying six-headed monster, and Charybdis, a treacherous whirlpool. Odysseus was cast ashore in the Kingdom of Helios, modern Taormina, where his companions slaughtered and ate the sacred oxen. To avenge the death of his beloved oxen, Helios sent a lightning bolt that destroyed their ship, drowning all aboard except Odysseus. Picturesque Taormina is poised on a mountainside affording magnificent views of Mount Etna. Visit the superbly situated Greek theater, built in the 3rd century B.C. Afterwards, stroll the town’s cobblestoned lanes, lined with shops, cafés and gardens. (B, L, D)

Sunday, June 29

ITHACA, GREECE: THE HOME OF ODYSSEUS | CORINTH CANAL

Ithaca, the legendary home of Odysseus, is a stunning island of pristine beaches and verdant forest. Visit the bay of Dexia, Homer’s harbor of Phorkys, where the Phaeacians left the sleeping Odysseus on the beach. Admire the Cyclopean Walls (Alalkomenai), a ruined site known locally as Odysseus’ Castle, and stand atop the Plateau of Marathia, where Odysseus’ loyal servant Eumaeus kept his swine. At dusk, sail along the Corinth Canal. (B, L, D)

Monday, June 30

PIRAEUS | DISEMBARK | ATHENS | USA

Disembark Corinthian II and transfer to the Athens airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)

Two-Night Optional Pre-Cruise Extension in Athens, Greece

June 17 – 20, 2008

(Please note that June 17 is the date you fly from the U.S.)

The history of Western civilization is alive in the incomparable city of Athens. Experience the ancient world firsthand with a tour of the Acropolis, the heart of ancient Athens. The ruins are majestic, especially the Parthenon, which is larger, more splendid, and infinitely more beautiful than it appears in any photograph. Also see the Erechtheion, or Portico of the Maidens; the Acropolis Museum that displays a superb collection of sculpture and artifacts; the Agora (ancient marketplace); and the National Archaeological Museum. This extension includes two nights at the King George II Hotel, with breakfast daily; sightseeing tours; and transfers.

Rates: $925 per person, double occupancy
Single supplement: $355
Program Inclusions

- 10-night cruise aboard the all-suite, 114-guest Corinthian II
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship, hosted by the captain
- All meals aboard ship, including house wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- Open bar aboard ship throughout the cruise
- Complete program of tours and excursions as described
- Educational program of lectures and discussions by Professor Richard Sacks and accompanying guest lecturers
- Professional Travel Dynamics International tour staff
- Complete pre-departure materials
- Baggage handling and transfers aboard on the designated program departure and arrival dates
- Port and embarkation taxes
- Gratuities to porters, guides, and drivers

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; visa and passport fees; luggage, trip cancellation, and accident insurance; meals and beverages other than those specified above; personal expenses such as laundry, telephone calls, faxes, and e-mail service; and gratuities to shipboard personnel

Corinthian II — The Ideal Grandeur

Enjoy the peace and comforts of your cabin

Spacious Suites
The deluxe Corinthian II is an all-suite yacht accommodating no more than 114 guests. Originally built in Italy in 1992, Corinthian II was refurbished and redecorated in 2005 specifically to create an atmosphere of effortless elegance and easy conviviality. All 57 outside-facing suites are a minimum of 225 square feet, appointed in rich wood tones, and feature beds that can be configured as two twin-size beds or one queen-size bed, a sitting area, satellite TV, DVD/CD player, mini-refrigerator, safe and a marble-appointed bathroom with fine toiletries. Guests staying in the spacious Penthouse Suites and Veranda Suites (400 and 300 square feet, respectively) will also enjoy a private balcony, private butler service, complimentary bottle of champagne on arrival and other exclusive in-suite amenities.

Fine Dining
Superb Continental cuisine is created by Corinthian II’s European chefs and served either in the stately restaurant or al fresco on the wide sun deck, which is specially equipped for outdoor dining service. Select regional wines are complimentary with lunch and dinner. Fresh ingredients are chosen locally at many ports of call. All meals are served at one unassigned seating; varied seating arrangements assure comfort for all. Corinthian II’s widely praised service equals that of the finest restaurants.

Effortless Elegance Each Day and Night
Returning from excursions, enjoy complimentary refreshments, afternoon tea and all-day coffee in The Club, a comfortable space for relaxation with panoramic windows. Before or after dinner, savor a cocktail while the ship’s pianist plays arrangements ranging from jazz to classical to contemporary. Corinthian II also features a library with Internet access, beauty salon, exercise room, elevator serving all decks and a wraparound sun deck with Jacuzzi. The 75 European officers and crew ensure an atmosphere akin to a private club for the length of your voyage.
COMBINATION OF CRUISE-SHIP AND SMALL-SHIP INTIMACY

Deck Plan

Main Specifications
Length: 297 feet  |  Beam: 50 feet  |  Draft: 12 feet  
Gross Tonnage: 4,200  |  Flag: Malta  |  Suites: 57

Single Supplement: A limited number of cabins have been designated for single travelers in Categories D - A at a supplement of $2,995 to the per person, double occupancy rates. Singles in Categories AA - PHS are available at double the per person, double occupancy rates.

Airfare: Airfare is not included in the Cruise and Land Rates. Please contact Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. (the agency handling the air arrangements for this program) for round-trip airfare to Athens, Greece. To reach VWTI, kindly call toll-free 877-711-9896 or 212-592-1340, and please have your tour code (8415) handy for reference.

Cruise and Land Rates | Per Person, Double Occupancy

All accommodations aboard Corinthian II are suites. They face outside, affording sea views, and several have balconies with sliding doors. All suites include a bedroom with beds that can be configured as two twin-size beds or one queen-size bed, sitting area, ample closet space, mini-refrigerator, satellite TV, DVD/CD player, marble-appointed bathroom with 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>D</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 329 - 332</td>
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<td>Deluxe Veranda Suites on Erickson Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 300 sq. ft. Suites 505 - 512</td>
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<td>Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. Suites 601 - 604</td>
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The enchantingly pristine island of Delos

Voyage Highlights

- Explore the uninhabited, pristine island of Delos, a veritable open-air museum.
- Discover the Palace of Nestor and indulge in the grandeur of the Mycenaeans.
- Visit the remarkable Doric temple of Segesta, set on a beautiful hilltop location.
- Admire Ithaca’s impressive Cyclopean Walls, a ruined site known locally as Odysseus’ Castle.
- Sail through the splendid Corinth Canal.

For further information about this travel program, please contact the Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program. You may reach us toll-free at 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664). fax: 203-724-0844 • e-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu website: www.alumni.columbia.edu/attend
**REGISTRATION**

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $________ ($1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold _______ place(s) on *Journey of Odysseus*. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure.

Please make check payable to: Travel Dynamics International and mail with this registration form to: Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program, 245 Mill St., 2nd Floor, Greenwich, CT 06830 (Or, fax to 203-724-0844) Phone: 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664) E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

- AmEx  - Discover  - Visa  - MasterCard

No. _______________________________________

Please select cabin category in order of preference:

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(Cannot be guaranteed, but I will pay the single supplement if need be.)

Please book me/us on the Two-Night Optional Pre-Cruise extension in Athens, Greece.

**DR/MR/MRS/MI:S  HRS1  LAST**

**SCHOOL/DEGREE/YEAR  DATE OF BIRTH**

**DR/MR/MRS/MI:S  HRS1  LAST**

**SCHOOL/DEGREE/YEAR  DATE OF BIRTH**

**ADDRESS**

**CITY/STATE/ZIP**

**TELEPHONE [DAY]  [EVENING]**

**E-MAI:**

*Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the “General Information” section and agree to its terms.*

**SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

**SIGNATURE**

**DATE**

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**Payment Schedule:** A deposit of $1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. For your convenience, you may change your deposit to your American Express, Visa, Discover, or MasterCard. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Credit cards are not accepted for final payment. However, personal checks are accepted for both deposits and final payment.

**Cancellations & Refunds:** All cancellations of confirmed reservations are subject to a $450 per person administrative fee. Additionally, passengers are subject to any cancellation fees assessed by the purveyors of services, including airlines or hotels used in the itinerary. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate. Service fees may apply to deviations and are non-refundable.

**Insurance:** We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance through a company of your choice. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Further information will be sent upon registration.

**Itinerary:** The itinerary, accommodations, and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Travel Dynamics International.

**Responsibility:** Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and Columbia University, its agent, TSS LLC, and operator, Travel Dynamics International. The passenger is also advised to review higher separate ticket passage contract with the vessel's owner/operator, which will constitute the sole, legally enforceable terms of carriage for this tour and is available on request from Travel Dynamics International. Columbia University, its agent, TSS LLC, and operator, Travel Dynamics International act solely as agents for the passenger with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the passenger's safety and satisfaction, but we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in the carrying the passenger or in affecting these tours. We, Columbia University, our agent, TSS LLC, and operator, Travel Dynamics International are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the passenger, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, ships, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the passenger certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other passengers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the passenger's risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in the City of New York, pursuant to applicable New York law. We cannot guarantee the size of the Columbia Alumni Travel Study group. We reserve the right to cancel or substitute lecturers. Faculty participation is contingent upon a minimum number of participants.

**Rates:** Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. Due to fluctuations in fuel costs, a fuel surcharge may be levied.

**Ship's Registry:** Malta  CST # 204599-90 TDI

**An Honest Discussion About Fuel Costs:**

In the uncertain, often volatile oil market of late, it is difficult—if not impossible—to predict fuel costs over the long term, and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based upon the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing (usually nine months before departure). While we will do everything possible to maintain our prices, if the fuel rates increase significantly, it may be necessary to institute a fuel surcharge. If one is necessary, the total surcharge for your voyage will not exceed $180 per person. Thank you for your understanding.