The Ancient Lost Cities of Libya and Tunisia

Greco-Roman Civilization Between the Desert and the Sea

Aboard the All-Suite, 114-Guest Corinthian II
May 10 – 21, 2007
Guest Lecturers

Susan Ackerman joined the Religion Department at Dartmouth College in 1990. She is a specialist in the religion of ancient Israel and the religions of Israel’s eastern Mediterranean and ancient Near Eastern neighbors (Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Canaan), an interest she first developed as an undergraduate religion major at Dartmouth and continued to explore in graduate school at Harvard. Her publications include several articles and three books: Under Every Green Tree: Popular Religion in Sixth-Century Judah, about ancient Israelite ritual behaviors; Warrior, Dancer, Seductress, Queen: Women in Judges and Biblical Israel, which examines the social roles described for women in the book of Judges and the analogs of these roles found elsewhere in biblical tradition and in eastern Mediterranean literature; and When Heroes Love: The Ambiguity of Eros in the Stories of Gilgamesh and David. She is also currently serving as the chair of the Religion Department.

Barry Strauss is Professor of History and Classics at Cornell University. His unique ability to blend ancient history with modern sensibilities has garnered critical acclaim for his works. He is the author of five books, including the recent History Book Club selection The Trojan War: A New History (Simon & Schuster). Strauss’ last book, The Battle of Salamis, was named one of the Best Books of 2004 by the Washington Post and has been translated into five languages. Strauss has co-authored or co-edited four other books, and he has also written many scholarly articles, reviews, and book chapters. As an expert in military history, he has published articles in the Los Angeles Times, the Washington Post, and Newsday. He has been interviewed for A&E, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, the National Geographic Channel, the BBC, and PBS. Last and not least, he is one of CAU’s most popular faculty program leaders.

Ibrahim Warde holds a Ph.D. in political science from UC Berkeley (1988), where he also taught Middle Eastern Politics, Comparative Politics, and International Relations. Ibrahim is currently adjunct professor at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. His recent books include Islamic Finance in the Global Economy, The Price of Fear: The Truth Behind the Financial War on Terror, The Iraq Wars (in French), and Islam and Economics. He will give three lectures: “The War on Terror and the Battle for Muslim Hearts and Minds,” “Libya: From Pariah to Respectable International Citizen,” and “Exporting Democracy to the Arab World.”
Dear Fellow Columbian,

Join us aboard the luxury all-suite Corinthian II during the perfect weather of the Mediterranean springtime, as we discover the ancient northern coast of Africa. Colonized by Phoenicians and Greeks around the 7th century B.C., the region was eventually conquered by Rome, which turned the entire coast into its breadbasket. A million tons of grain each year were shipped to Rome’s hungry armies; exotic African animals found their way to Rome’s Coliseum; and, at the behest of the Severan emperors, powerful cities rose, to rival Rome itself in scope, scale, and lavishness.

The desert air has its advantages. Ruins do not decay, and modern cities are slow to encroach upon the ancient. Leptis Magna, the monumental capital of Roman North Africa, is probably the most coherent ancient city anywhere in the world. The scale is almost unfathomable, the sculptural details are exquisite, and from the Arch of Septimius Severus to the Severan Forum and the Hadrianic Baths, a sense of the rich, chaotic life that once existed here 1,800 years ago is immediately palpable. Just last year, tremendous 1st-century mosaics—rivaling those of Pompeii—were excavated.

Our other highlight not to be missed is Cyrene, an extensive Greek colony dramatically situated on a bluff facing the sea. Founded by emigrants from the island of Thera (Santorini), Cyrene became the world’s preeminent Greek city in the 4th century B.C. The Temple of Zeus, the vast Agora, and the Sanctuary of Apollo, all dwarfing its visitors, confirm the city’s prominence. Archaeologists were so excited to revive excavations here after the Libyan travel embargo fell that an entire edition of Archaeology magazine was devoted to the city. Rewards have already been reaped: just last year, 76 Roman sculptures, buried in an earthquake, were recovered—virtually intact.

Our portrait of this lost world between the desert and the sea also includes the recently restored, early Byzantine Villa Sileen with its incredible floor mosaics; Sabratha, its Mausoleum of Bes still soaring in the sky; and the remnants of Phoenician Carthage. We will not neglect the post-Roman Empire, and will also explore the historic mosques and medinas of Tripoli, exotic Tunis, and, perhaps most exciting, Kairouan—a Middle Ages city of mosques which played the role of “Cairo” in Steven Spielberg’s Raiders of the Lost Ark.

This is the ideal season to tour the southern Mediterranean coast, with temperatures around 70° F. Cruising to these ancient sites—all easily accessible from the shore—adds a unique component to already extraordinary landmarks. Our ship, the all-suite Corinthian II, accommodates just 114 guests amid an atmosphere of elegance and comfort, with excellent cuisine and service.

Libya, the richest trove of ancient sites in the region, has only been open to American travelers since 2004. The tourist industry there is in its infancy, making this the ideal time to visit. This is the very definition of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Joining us on this journey will be alumni from Cornell University, UC Berkeley, Dartmouth College, and Vassar College. I strongly encourage you to place your reservation today to avoid disappointment.

Sincerely,

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

Telephone: 866-3-ALUMNI
(866-325-8664)
E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

LUXURY
Our programs are classified in three categories: Value, Superior and Luxury

Front Cover: The stage building of Sabratha’s Roman theater, constructed like a palace
Back Cover: Greek sculptures adorning a shrine in Cyrene
Itinerary

Thursday, May 10, 2007
USA
Fly from the U.S. to Athens, Greece.

Friday, May 11
ATHENS | PIRAEUS, GREECE | EMBARK
Arrive in Athens and transfer to the port to embark on Corinthian II. (D)

Saturday, May 12
AT SEA
Enjoy the amenities of Corinthian II as the ship cruises toward Derna. (B, L, D)

Sunday, May 13
DERNA | CYRENE | APOLLONIA | Derna, Libya
This morning, Corinthian II docks in Derna (the ancient Darnis) on Libya's Cyrenaican coast. Take a full-day excursion to Cyrene, one of North Africa’s great cities of antiquity. Founded by Greek colonists from the island of Thera (Santorini) in the 7th century B.C., Cyrene was built on the side of a hill, facing the plain and the sea. Its substantial ruins and monuments testify to its wealth and power. Continue to Apollonia to explore the Museum, which displays excellent mosaics from the region's early Byzantine churches. (B, L, D)

Monday, May 14
BENGHAZI | TEUCHEIRA | PTOLEMAIS | BENGHAZI
From Benghazi, Libya’s second largest city and a major commercial port, travel to the attractive area known as the Jebel Akhdar (Green Mountains) to visit the remains of ancient Teucheira and Ptolemais. One of the five cities of the Libyan Pentapolis, Teucheira was founded in the 6th century B.C. by Saharan caravans coming from the Fezzan, the vast desert area in the south of Libya. Among the notable buildings are the remains of a large mosque. North of Teucheira is Ptolemais, an ancient port that occupies a narrow area between the sea and the lower area of the Jebel Akhdar. Originally a Greek settlement of the 7th century B.C., it was refounded by Ptolemy III in the 3rd century B.C. as Ptolemais. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, May 15
AT SEA
Enjoy lectures and the amenities of Corinthian II as the ship cruises toward Khoms, gateway to the stunning site of Leptis Magna. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, May 16
KHOMS | LEPTIS MAGNA | KHOMS
This morning, call at Khoms on Libya’s Tripolitanian coast. Nearby are the ruins of Leptis Magna, one of the Mediterranean’s most compelling ancient sites. Leptis Magna achieved its prominence in the 3rd century A.D. under the Severan emperors, who launched an unprecedented, lavish building scheme, embellishing the city with extraordinary public buildings. Excellently preserved to the present day because of its burial under shifting sands, this glorious coastal city is a unique example of ancient town planning. Spend the day exploring the city’s magnificent buildings, monuments, temples, and streets. Also visit Villa Sileen, a recently restored Roman residence with vivid mosaics depicting chariot races and gladiatorial combat scenes. (B, L, D)

Conclude your voyage in grand fashion, arriving at the seaside battlements of Valletta, Malta.
Thursday, May 17
TRIPOLI | SABRATHA | TRIPOLI
Arrive in Tripoli and travel to nearby Sabratha, the ancient city that began as a Carthaginian trading post and flourished in the Roman period. Located by the sea, Sabratha’s ruins include temples, public baths, fountains, and a museum noted for its collection of mosaics. (B, L, D)

Friday, May 18
TRIPOLI
With its spacious natural harbor, Tripoli’s site attracted Phoenician and Greek settlers, followed by the Romans, who erected the impressive triumphal arch honoring Marcus Aurelius. Later, Tripoli grew wealthy from the Saharan caravan trade. Spend the day exploring Libya’s capital, focusing on the Medina, the medieval walled town built on the site of the Roman settlement. Also tour the Jamahiriya Museum, housed in the massive Citadel, which dates from the medieval period. The museum’s collection encompasses Libya’s Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, and Islamic periods. There will also be time to explore the city’s colorful souks. (B, L, D)

Saturday, May 19
SOUSSE OR KAIROUAN OR EL DJEM | SOUSSE, TUNISIA
Land in the morning in Sousse in central Tunisia. There will be a choice of two excursions from Sousse. Drive to Kairouan to visit the Great Mosque of Sidi Okba and the Sidi Sahab Mausoleum, or travel to El Djem to explore its great Roman amphitheater and tour the Museum, with its collection of mosaics. (B, L, D)

Sunday, May 20
HAMMAMET | CARTHAGE | TUNIS | HAMMAMET
Arrive in Hammamet and tour celebrated Carthage, founded by Phoenicians in the 8th century B.C. The site contains Phoenician remains including Tophet, the sanctuary of the gods Tanit and Baal, and imposing monuments from the Roman period. Also tour the Bardo Museum, renowned for its spectacular collection of Roman mosaics, and visit the Medina and its souks. Spend the night aboard ship, docked in port. (B, L, D)

Monday, May 21
VALLETTA, MALTA | DISEMBARK | USA
Disembark Corinthian II and transfer to the airport for flights to the U.S. (B)

Optional Two-Night
Pre-Cruise Extension in Athens
May 8-11, 2007 (Depart U.S. on May 8.)
The history of Western civilization is alive in the incomparable city of Athens, which received a massive facelift in preparation for the Olympics. 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 finally the National Archaeological Museum.

Rates (per person, double occupancy): $725
Single supplement: $220
Included: Two nights at the Athens Plaza Hotel, with breakfast daily; tours of Athens, as described; group transfers from airport to hotel and from hotel to ship

Optional Two-Night
Post-Cruise Extension in Valletta
May 21-23, 2007
Valletta is renowned for its architectural beauty, medieval relics, and ancient monuments. On this two-day optional extension, visit the Co-Cathedral of St. John, a lavish repository for Malta’s finest art treasures; the Palace of the Grand Masters; and the National Museum of Archaeology. Explore Hal Saflieni Hypogeum, an enormous subterranean sanctuary dating from prehistoric times; the Neolithic temple structures at Tarxien; and the M’dina, the “Silent City” once inhabited by Phoenicians, Carthaginians, and the Romans.

Rates (per person, double occupancy): $695
Single supplement: $195
Included: Two nights at the Hotel Phoenicia, with breakfast daily; tours of Malta, as described; group transfers from ship to hotel and from hotel to airport

Walk down the ancient streets of Leptis Magna to the Triumphal Arch of Septimius Severus
Program Inclusions

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

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; visa and passport fees; baggage, cancellation, and accident 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.

Corinthian II – The ideal combination of cruise ship grandeur and small-ship intimacy

Spacious Suites
The five-star deluxe Corinthian II is an all-suite mega-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 with two twin-size beds or one queen-size bed, sitting area, satellite TV/DVD, mini-refrigerator, safe, and a marble-appointed bathroom with fine toiletries. Several suites include private balconies accessible via sliding-glass doors.

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 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, Internet center, beauty salon, gym, elevator serving all decks, and a wraparound sun deck with jacuzzi. The 70 European officers and crew ensure an atmosphere akin to a private club for the length of your voyage.
MAIN SPECIFICATIONS
Overall Length: 297 feet  |  Beam: 50 feet  |  Draft: 12 feet  | Gross Tonnage: 4,200  |  Flag: Malta  |  Suites: 57

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, TV/DVD, marble-appointed bathroom with shower, and other amenities.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 250 - 252</td>
<td>$7,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 329 - 332</td>
<td>$8,195</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 285 sq. ft. Suites 414 - 415</td>
<td>$8,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 333 - 348</td>
<td>$9,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Marco Polo Deck with window and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 416 - 428</td>
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<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Deluxe suites on Marco Polo Deck with forward and side windows and sitting area. 285 sq. ft. Suites 414 - 415</td>
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<td>VS</td>
<td>Deluxe Veranda Suites on Erickson Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 300 sq. ft. (including balcony) Suites 505 - 512</td>
<td>$12,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHS</td>
<td>Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. (including balcony) Suites 601 - 604</td>
<td>$13,895</td>
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SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: A limited number of cabins have been designated for single travelers in Categories D - A at a supplement of $2,695 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 air arrangements for this program, for competitive airfares to Athens, Greece, returning from Valletta, Malta, in your selected class of service. To reach VWTI, kindly call toll-free 877-711-9896 or 212-592-1340, and please have your tour code (7413) handy for reference.
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 charge 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 $100 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 his/her 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 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 therefor. 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.

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.

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.

Registration

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $________ ($1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on The Ancient Lost Cities of Libya and Tunisia. 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. ____________________________
Exp. ___________ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code ________________

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, but I will pay the single supplement if need be.)

☐ Please book me/us on the Optional Pre-Cruise Extension in Athens.
☐ Please book me/us on the Optional Post-Cruise Extension in Valletta.

Dr./Mjr./Mrs./Ms.  First Last
School/Year Date of Birth

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Discover the Ancient Lost Cities of North Africa’s Mediterranean Coast

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