Sicily: Crossroads of Mediterranean Civilizations

Aboard the 34-Guest Yacht Callisto
April 15 - 25, 2007
Alternate Departure
Guest Lecturer

Aaron J. Paul, a Harvard-trained curator and art historian, is an Associate of the Material Culture Program at Harvard University’s Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C., where he is organizing the international exhibition project, Greek and Etruscan Encounters: Contact and Change in Ancient Italy. As Curatorial Research Associate of Ancient Art at Harvard University Art Museums, he was curator and catalogue author for the innovative exhibition at the Fogg Art Museum: Fragments of Antiquity: Drawing upon Greek Vases. In 2002, as the Richard E. Perry Curator of Greek and Roman Art at the Tampa Museum of Art, he co-organized the international exhibition and co-edited the catalogue for Magna Graecia: Greek Art from South Italy and Sicily, which brought Italian national treasures to the United States for the first time. Specializing in the field of Greek vase painting, he was invited by the Vatican Museums to research and publish vases in the Museo Gregoriano Etrusco and has been a Visiting Scholar on several occasions at the American Academy in Rome.
Dear Fellow Columbian,

The cultural treasures of Sicily are unsurpassed. For 3,000 years, wave after wave of new cultures, new ideas, and new artistic techniques have swept over this beautiful Mediterranean island, leaving in their wake sublime temples, great cities, captivating villages, and extraordinary works of art. Next spring, we invite you to join fellow alumni, family, and friends on a special voyage around Sicily’s shores to explore the awe-inspiring places where great ideas and civilizations converged and flourished.

Our journey includes a treasure trove of riches—from the spectacular artistic achievements of the Byzantine era (with its magnificent frescoes, mosaics, and other opulent works of art) to the simplicity and grace of the Doric temples of the ancient Greeks, the exquisite architecture of the Moors, and the colossal works of the Romans. At Syracuse, Segesta, and other sites scattered throughout the island, Sicily is often called an “open-air museum” because of its multitude of incomparable and well-preserved architectural remains. Also discover Sicily’s inviting towns, including grand Palermo, medieval Erice, picturesque Cefalu, and Monreale, with its Norman Cathedral. And witness some of the most breathtaking vistas found anywhere in the Mediterranean: the glorious view from Agrigento, where superb Doric temples overlook the sea; beautiful Taormina, clinging to the edge of Mount Tauro, from where we have a majestic view of volcanic Mount Etna; and the Baroque towns of Noto, Ispica, Modica, and Ragusa, located amidst stunning landscapes.

We are especially pleased to include two exclusive events that will capture the vibrant character of Sicily, and make your voyage an unforgettable experience. On our final night in Palermo, we will be privileged to dine with Sicilian nobility at Palazzo Raffadali, where the Principessa Stefania regularly holds salons and banquets for friends. And in Ragusa, we will enjoy a flavorful luncheon at an agriturismo villa, an estate that serves classical local delicacies organically produced on its own farm.

The timing for this Mediterranean trip could not be better—the wildflowers of spring add a profusion of color to the pastoral countryside, the air is fresh and clear, and the influx of summer tourists has not yet begun. In addition, our voyage takes place aboard the elegant, 34-guest private yacht, Callisto—the perfect way to circumnavigate this vivid island. We hope you will join us and travelers of the National Trust for Historic Preservation next spring to discover the many faces of Sicily: Crossroads of Mediterranean Civilizations.

Sincerely,

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

Unique Highlights

• Be a guest at an exclusive private dinner hosted by Principessa Stefania and accompanying nobility in Palermo.

• Visit Bonajuto’s pastry shop in Modica for a tasting and demonstration of its famous chocolate.

• Enjoy a private visit and reception at one of Syracuse’s splendid palazzi.

• Sample Marsala wine in the port town of the same name.

• Enjoy a special agriturismo lunch at Eremo della Giubiliana, an estate by Ragusa that serves classical local delicacies organically produced on its own proprietary farm.

Telephone: 212-472-4365 or 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664)
E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

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

**Sunday, April 15, 2007**
*USA*
Fly from the U.S. to Palermo, Sicily.

**Monday, April 16**
**PALERMO, SICILY, ITALY | CASTELLMAMARE DEL GOLFO | EMBARK**
Arrive in Palermo, one of Europe’s most visually stunning and energetic cities. Founded by the Phoenicians in 827 B.C., and conquered by the Saracens in the 9th century, Palermo became one of Europe’s greatest cities by the 12th century when the Normans took control. Transfer to Castelammare del Golfo, a beautiful harbor town named for its medieval fortress, to board *Callisto*. The ship remains docked in port overnight. *(D)*

**Tuesday, April 17**
**CASTELLMAMARE DEL GOLFO | SEGESTA | ERICE | MARSALA**
Drive to the town of Segesta to view its unfinished temple, situated in majestic solitude atop a rural hill. Begun in 424 B.C., it is one of the grandest surviving Doric monuments. Continue to Erice, magnificently located on a plateau high above the sea. Leisurably explore the shops and streets of this beautifully preserved medieval town, noting the 12th-century Castle of Venus. Reboard *Callisto* in Marsala, where we remain docked overnight. *(B, L, D)*

**Wednesday, April 18**
**MARSALA | PORTO EMPEDOCLE | AGRIGENTO | PORTO EMPEDOCLE**
Spend the morning sailing along the coast of Sicily to Porto Empedocle. From Porto Empedocle, travel to nearby Agrigento. Set on a ridge facing the sea, Agrigento’s series of superb Doric temples are among Sicily’s most captivating Greek ruins. View the Temple of Hercules, constructed in the 6th century B.C.; the remarkably preserved Temple of Concord; and the Temple of Juno, noted for its graceful proportions. Also visit the impressive Archaeological Museum. Return to Porto Empedocle to reboard *Callisto*. *(B, L, D)*

**Thursday, April 19**
**LICATA | PIAZZA ARMERINA | LICATA | POZZALLO**
From Licata, drive inland to tour Sicily’s finest Roman site, the Imperial Roman Villa of Casale. Located outside Piazza Armerina, a town situated amid wooded hills, the villa was built in palatial proportions in the 3rd century and features superb floor mosaics. Enjoy the afternoon at sea, heading towards Pozzallo, where we dock for the evening. *(B, L)*

**Friday, April 20**
**POZZALLO | MODICA | RAGUSA | ISPICA | NOTO | SYRACUSE**
Today explore Sicily’s southeast region, known for its Baroque towns. Begin at Modica, the “town of a hundred churches,” where we visit the beautiful cathedral and indulge in a tasting of Bonajuto’s famous local chocolate. Then, drive through spectacular scenery to Ragusa, and visit the old town, Ragusa Ibla, which has preserved its medieval appearance. Enjoy a fine lunch of organically produced, local delicacies at a historic villa. Continue for a...
view of Ispica, driving past the Cava d'Ispica, an eight-mile gorge filled with cliffside dwellings from the Neolithic period. Then see Noto, a Baroque jewel situated on a plateau surrounded by olive and almond groves. Re-embark on Callisto in Syracuse. (B, L, D)

Saturday, April 21
SYRACUSE
Syracuse once rivaled Athens as the most important city of the ancient world. Visit the spectacular 15,000-seat Greek Theater, among the most impressive to survive from antiquity; the elliptical Roman Amphitheater, one of the largest of its kind; and the Archaeological Museum, with its rare Sicilian artifacts. Also enjoy a walking tour of Syracuse’s old town on the island of Ortygia. Remain in Syracuse overnight. (B, L, D)

Sunday, April 22
RIPOSTO | TAORMINA | RIPOSTO
Enjoy a morning at sea as Callisto cruises to Riposto for an afternoon excursion to Taormina. Clinging to the edge of Mount Tauro, Taormina looks out to the sea and the dramatic cone of Mount Etna. A Greek colony was founded here in 403 B.C. and prospered throughout the Hellenistic and Roman periods. Visit the magnificent Greek theater, and then enjoy time at leisure to explore on your own. (B, L, D)

Monday, April 23
CEFALU | DISEMBARK | PALERMO
Disembark Callisto in the medieval port town of Cefalu, nestled between the sea and a rocky promontory. Take a walking tour, featuring Cefalu’s spectacular Romanesque cathedral, towering over the town’s narrow streets and ascending terraces. A collaborative effort of Arab, Byzantine, and Norman artisans, the cathedral’s interior contains a splendid vault covered with beautiful Byzantine mosaics. After time enjoying this charming town, drive along the coast to Palermo, and check-in at the Hilton Villa Igiea Palermo, which overlooks the bay. Then, following lunch, an afternoon tour of Palermo includes the Palermo Archaeological Museum and the Cappella Palatina, a wonder of Arab-Norman artistry with dazzling mosaics rivaling those in Ravenna. Also see La Martorana Church, which has some of the oldest and best-preserved Norman mosaics. (B, L)

Tuesday, April 24
PALERMO | MONREALE | PALERMO
Take a morning excursion to Monreale to see the famous Norman Cathedral, whose interior contains a magnificent series of mosaics, and also visit the elegant Cloister. The afternoon is at leisure. In the evening enjoy a very special dinner in Palermo at Palazzo Raffadali, a Gothic palace with 17th-century interiors. Begin with a tour of the palace, followed by dinner hosted by Principessa Stefania and accompanying nobility, before returning to the hotel for the night. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, April 25
PALERMO | USA
Transfer to the airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)
Callisto | Privileged Yachting for Just 34 Guests

Intimate Elegance
The luxurious private yacht Callisto, accommodating just 34 guests, is ideal for our unique approach to cultural cruising. Her small size allows visits to unspoiled ports, pristine beaches and intimate coves inaccessible to larger cruise liners. The limited guest list assures a group large enough to bring together an interesting mix of travelers, but small enough to foster a genuine spirit of camaraderie. All 17 exterior cabins resemble guest rooms in a fine home—beautifully furnished, comfortably arranged, and complete with the amenities one would expect from a thoughtful host: large windows (portholes on Daphne Deck); air-conditioning; generous storage space; telephone; satellite TV/VCR/DVD; mini-refrigerator; and marble bathroom with shower.

A Private Yacht Experience
The yacht’s public areas, which include an elegant restaurant surrounded by large picture windows; a spacious lounge and bar; and a library and Internet center surrounded by floor-to-ceiling windows, are furnished with rich fabrics, handsome woodwork, gleaming brass, antiques and fine works of art—warm, inviting places where travelers meet for conversation and refreshments, or to spend a pleasant hour with a good book. The yacht also includes two broad decks for sunbathing and a swimming platform.

Fine Dining
Callisto’s hotel staff requisitions fresh provisions from many ports of call. You will enjoy just-baked bread, caught-that-day fish, and all of the ripest produce from the local markets, resulting in menus of classic regional specialties as well as creative Continental fare prepared by expert European chefs, served at a single unassigned seating in the restaurant, or al fresco on the Sun Deck. Select fine wines are complimentary with lunch and dinner.
Cruise and Land Rates | per person, double occupancy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Outside cabins on Daphne Deck with portholes</td>
<td>$7,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Outside cabins on Daphne Deck with portholes</td>
<td>$8,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Outside cabins on Leto Deck with picture window</td>
<td>$8,895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Outside cabins on Leto Deck with two picture windows</td>
<td>$9,295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: A limited number of cabins have been designated for single travelers in Categories B and C at a supplement of $2,495 to the per person, double occupancy rates.

AIRFARE: Round-trip airfare between the U.S. and Palermo 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 competitive international airfares. To reach VWTI, kindly call toll-free 877-711-9896 or 212-592-1340 for air reservations and ticketing information, and please have your tour code (7812) 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 $300 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 any 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 approved 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 liability or responsibility 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 his/her 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 have 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 any vessel. Pursuant to applicable New York law, we reserve the right to refuse passage of any person who, in our judgment, is not possible—to predict fuel costs over the long term, and, more specifically, at the time of operation of this voyage. Our prices are based on the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing (usually nine months before departure). While we 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 $150 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 Sicily. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check only.

Please make check payable to: Travel Dynamics International and mail with this registration form to: Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program, P.O. Box 169, New York, NY 10028. (Or, fax to 212-517-7770.)

Phone: 866-3-ALUMNI (866-325-8664) or 212-472-4365 in New York City

E-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu

❑ AmEx ❑ Discover ❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard

No. ___________________________ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code ____________

Please select cabin category in order of preference:

A  B  C  D

❑ Twin Beds  ❑ Double Bed
❑ Single Occupancy  ❑ Share

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

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.  First Last

Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone (Day) (Eve.)

E-mail

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

Signature: ______________________ Date: _________

Signature: ______________________ Date: _________

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 on the prevailing fuel rates at the time of brochure printing (usually nine months before departure). While we 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 $150 per person. Thank you for your understanding.
Discover Sicily, Europe’s “Open-Air Museum”

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).
New York City area residents may reach us at 212-472-4365.
fax 212-517-7770 • e-mail: travelstudy@columbia.edu
website: www.alumni.columbia.edu/attend