



SMITH COLLEGE

SMITH TRAVEL
Presents

Ancient Islands

*Exploring Malta, Cyprus and Crete with
Scott Bradbury
Smith College Professor of Classical Languages and Literature*



June 16 - 25, 2014
(June 30 return with the Crete option)



Dear Smith Alumnae and Friends,

This coming summer, we invite you to join us on an unusual itinerary taking you to the ancient islands of Malta and Cyprus with an optional extension to Crete. You will be in the company of Scott Bradbury, Smith Professor of Classical Languages and Literatures who is excited to join you on this customized land program. Enjoy the first few days of your trip seeing the sights of Valletta, Malta, and explore the island of Gozo - a short boat ride away - before taking the short flight to Larnaca, Cyprus where you will spend the second part of the week. This itinerary has been designed so that you can go on to Crete for an optional five day extension.

Professor Bradbury has spent many weeks getting to know Crete during Smith's global seminars for students! While in Crete, spend two nights in Agios Nikolaos followed by three nights in the capital, Heraklion - this will give you good overview of the island. There will, of course, be time to visit the Palace of Knossos, the home of King Minos and the fabled Minotaur, during our stay in Heraklion. Another highlight of the Crete extension will be a visit to the Minoan settlement of Gournia, excavated around the turn of the last century by pioneering American archaeologist and Smith alumna Harriet Boyd-Hawes, class of 1892!

We look forward to hearing from you.

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director for Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations, Smith College



Scott Bradbury is a Professor of Classical Languages and Literatures, specializing in the history of the Later Roman Empire, particularly the Greek East, and in ancient religions. He was educated at Amherst College, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and the University of California at Berkeley. At Smith, he teaches courses in Greek and Latin at all levels, as well as Classical Mythology and Paganism in the Greco-Roman World. He served twice as the Director of Smith's Junior Year in Florence and has travelled extensively in the Mediterranean with both students and alumnae. His current book project, supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a social history based on the correspondence of Libanius of Antioch (A.D. 314-393), a noted teacher, writer, and public speaker. His wife, Nancy, is a Smith alumna and Professor of English at Smith.

Tour Hotels.

Malta: The Phoenicia Malta (www.phoeniciamalta.com)
Larnaca: The E Hotel Spa & Resort (www.hotel-e.com)
Limassol: The Crowne Plaza (www.crowneplaza.com/limassol)
Agios Nikolaos: The Minos Palace (www.minospalace.com)
Heraklion: The Hotel Megaron (www.gdmmeqaron.gr)



www.discovereuropeltd.com

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Tour Cost: \$3980

For more information on this journey, please contact
Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029 or alumtrav@smith.edu



The Temple at Hagar Qim, Malta

shrine, and well known for the 'Venus of Malta' statue. Dinner will be at a local restaurant this evening when we return to Valletta. (B, D) **Overnight: Valletta**

Friday, June 20. Today brings an excursion to the neighboring island of Gozo, a short 20 minute ferry ride away. We'll visit the Xaghra plateau and the temples of Ggantija, at 5,500 years old they were, until recently, claimed to be the oldest free-standing stone structures in the world. We continue on to the Citadel, a fortified city that was the administrative capital of the independent Roman province of Gozo. We return to our hotel on Malta for a free evening. (B) **Overnight: Valletta**

Saturday, June 21. This morning we pay visits to the church of St. Mary's in Mosta and the city of Mdina, an ancient walled town that was the historic capital of Malta. This afternoon we board the direct Air Malta flight to Larnaca in Cyprus. On arrival we'll transfer the short distance to our hotel in Larnaca. Dinner at our hotel on arrival. (B, D) **Overnight: Larnaca**

Sunday, June 22. On the way into Larnaca this morning we'll pass by the Hala Sultan Tekke, the mosque that houses the tomb of Umm Haram, the maternal aunt of the prophet Mohammed and one of the most important Muslim shrines in the world. Larnaca is built on the site of the ancient Bronze Age city of Kition and we'll visit the Acropolis and the magnificent Byzantine Church of Saint Lazarus. We continue to Nicosia, the island's bustling capital where we'll visit the Cyprus Museum and then have time for lunch and to explore the delightful Old Town. On our way to Limassol we'll stop and visit the ancient site of Choirokoitia, a Neolithic settlement dating back to 9000 BC. We'll arrive at our hotel in Limassol in time to enjoy the beach before you are free to choose a local restaurant for dinner. (B) **Overnight: Limassol**

Monday, June 23. A full day excursion today north into the central highlands of the island. We first head to Galata for a visit to Panagia Podithou, one of nine 'painted' churches in the Troodos region, famed for their beautiful Byzantine frescoes. We continue into the foothills of the Troodos Mountains for a visit to Kakopetria, a well-preserved, 14th-century hilltop village. Our final stop for the day will be Omodos. Dating back to the 4th century, Omodos is built around the Holy Cross Monastery, the oldest in Cyprus, and is well renowned for its wine production. Return to Limassol for a free evening. (B) **Overnight: Limassol**

Monday, June 16. Departures from US gateway cities.
Overnight: Plane

Tuesday, June 17. Your arrival in Malta will be met for the transfer to our hotel in the capital, Valletta. After time to unpack and relax, we will gather for an evening reception and welcome dinner. (D) **Overnight: Valletta**

Wednesday, June 18. On our morning walking tour of Valletta with a local guide, we'll wander along Republic Street, past the Auberge de Castille and then onto the Upper Barrakka Gardens where you can marvel at the view. We'll include visits to the Grand Master's palace, the National Museum of Archeology and St. John's Co-Cathedral. The afternoon and evening are free to explore the city. (B) **Overnight: Valletta**

Thursday, June 19. A full day excursion today begins with a visit to the Three Cities. Cospicua, Vittoriosa and Senglea are three fortified towns that collectively claim to be the cradle of Maltese history. Our next stop is the charming, traditional fishing village of Marsaxlokk and on our way back to our hotel we'll visit the Neolithic Temple of Hagar Qim, believed to have been a fertility



Malta, Valletta Harbor

Tuesday, June 24. Today we explore the west end of Cyprus. Our first stop will be Kourion to visit the restored amphitheatre and to see the wonderful mosaics that have been unearthed here. We then continue on to Palaepaphos to visit the sanctuary of Aphrodite, one of the primary centers of her cult in the ancient world. It's a short drive from here to the town of Paphos, known for its beautiful harbor. We'll stop here for free time for lunch. You might like to visit the Tombs of the Kings, view the mosaics in the House of Dionysus. We return to our hotel in Limassol for a farewell dinner. (B, D) **Overnight: Limassol**

Wednesday, June 25. Morning transport to Larnaca Airport for flights back to the USA. (B)

Optional Crete Extension:

Wednesday, June 25. Morning transport to the airport for the flight to Heraklion in Crete, via Athens. On arrival, we'll board our bus for the short drive to our hotel in the beautiful town of Agios Nikolaos. There will be time to unpack, get settled in to the hotel, and wander the old town around the inner harbor before we gather for dinner. (B, D) **Overnight: Agios Nikolaos**

Thursday, June 26. Our first stop today will be the Minoan Palace at Malia, and its surrounding town. First discovered in 1915, the excavations are ongoing. From here we drive to the Minoan settlement of Gournia, discovered and excavated around the turn of the last century by the American archeologist Harriet Boyd-Hawes. We'll return to Agios Nikolaos with time to relax, enjoy the beach and find a local taverna for dinner. (B) **Overnight: Agios Nikolaos**

Friday, June 27. Today we travel west along the north coast of the island to the Palace of Knossos. Forever associated with King Minos and the fabled Minotaur, Knossos is the largest and best-preserved palace of the Minoan civilization, dating from between 1700 and 1400 BC. After an extensive visit of this large site we will continue to our hotel in Heraklion, the capital of Crete. This afternoon we'll visit the National Archaeological Museum. Dinner is included this evening. (B, D) **Overnight: Heraklion**

Saturday, June 28. Our excursion today takes us south across the island to the ancient Minoan site of Festos, second only to Knossos in terms of size and importance. We'll stop for lunch (included) in the seaside resort of Matala, famous for the burial caves, carved into the cliff sides. After lunch we'll visit the fabulous Roman remains of the city of Gortys. We'll return to Heraklion for a free evening, where you can sample the local restaurants. (B, L) **Overnight: Heraklion**

Sunday, June 29. Today we explore the western end of the island, beginning with a visit to the Monastery of Arkadi. Built during



Paphos Castle

the last Venetian period (completed in 1587), the monastery has become a symbol of freedom to the Cretan people, due to the events in 1866 when it was destroyed during a siege by the Turkish Army. From here we will visit the nearby village of Margarites, known for its traditional Cretan village architecture and its local pottery industry. We return to Heraklion via the ancient Venetian port city of Rethymno, where we'll stop to explore. You may like to visit the local museum or climb the walls of the Fortress. This evening we'll enjoy a farewell dinner in Heraklion. (B) **Overnight: Heraklion**



The Prince of Lilies

Monday, June 30. Morning transfer to Heraklion Airport for returning flights to the USA. (B) **Overnight: Home**

The cost of this itinerary, per person, double occupancy is:

Land only (no airfare included): **\$3980**
Single supplement: **\$850**

Airfares are available from many U.S. cities. Please call for details.

The following services are included:

- Flights:** One way airfare from Malta to Cyprus.
All customs fees and airport taxes included
- Hotels:** 8 nights accommodation in a first class hotel.
All hotel taxes and service charges included.
- Coaching:** All ground transportation as detailed in the itinerary.
- Meals:** Continental breakfast daily, 4 dinners (inc wine).
- Staff:** Smith lecturer and Discover Europe tour director throughout the tour and local guides for all excursions
- Expenses:** Portage of one large suitcase per person.
- Entrances:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary.
- Tickets:** Round trip ferry from Malta to Gozo.

The cost of the optional Crete extension, per person, double occupancy is:

Land only: **\$2480**
Single supplement: **\$620**

The following services are included:

- Flights:** One way air from Cyprus to Crete, via Athens.
All customs fees and airport taxes included
- Hotels:** 5 nights accommodation in first class hotels.
All hotel taxes and service charges included.
- Coaching:** All ground transportation as per the itinerary.
- Meals:** Continental breakfast daily, 1 lunch, 3 dinners.
- Staff:** Smith lecturer and Discover Europe tour director throughout and local guides for all excursions
- Expenses:** Portage of one large suitcase per person.
- Entrances:** Entrance fees to all sites included in the itinerary.

All registration forms and deposits must be sent to: Smith Travel
Office of Alumnae Relations
33 Elm Street
Northampton, MA 01063.

You may also fax your registration to (413) 585-2015. Feel free to contact Smith Travel at (800) 225-2029 or alumtrav@smith.edu with any questions.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Make checks payable to DISCOVER EUROPE, LTD.
2. Detach the bottom section and mail it to Smith Travel with your registration payment of \$800 per person. The remaining balance will be billed and payable 60 days prior to trip departure.
3. Please make sure that your name appears on this form exactly as it does on your passport.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Registration and payment waive and release Discover Europe, Ltd., and Smith College, their affiliates, directors, officers, employees, including any person or entity employed or utilized by them, from all claims arising from any injury, loss, damage, accident, delay or expense resulting from events beyond their control, including, without limitation: natural disasters, war, strikes, incidents of politically-motivated violence, sickness or quarantine, government restrictions or regulations, and in the absence of its own gross negligence, arising from the use of any vehicle or from any act of omission by any bus or car rental agency, airline, taxi or tour service, hotel, restaurant, or other firm, agency, company or individual.

TOUR COST ADJUSTMENTS:

Discover Europe makes every effort to guarantee that the published cost of your chosen tour will not change - in fact we have not had to invoke this clause in the contract in 8 years of operation. However we do reserve the right to make adjustments in the following circumstances:

1. Exchange rates. Should the value of the dollar fall against the currency of the countries visited on your tour by more than 10% in the year prior to trip departure.
2. Group size. Your tour has been based on a group size of 15 participants. Should we end up with less than 15 people, Discover Europe will work with the group organizer to determine a course of action which will involve either paying a surcharge to keep the tour as is, or making adjustments to the tour in order to keep the cost the same.

REFUND POLICY:

1. Participants who withdraw more than 60 days prior to tour departure will receive a refund of all monies received by Discover Europe, Ltd., less a \$200 cancellation penalty.
2. Participants who withdraw less than 60 days prior to tour departure will be assessed the following cancellation penalties:
 - 59-31 days prior \$1000 per person
 - 30-15 days prior \$2000 per person
 - 14-2 days prior \$3000 per person
 - less than 2 days prior No refund
3. Comprehensive travel insurance is **not** included in your tour package. Discover Europe, Ltd., strongly advises that you purchase travel insurance for your upcoming trip. Smith Travel will be providing you with a brochure describing the services of a recommended insurance company, which fully details the coverages, provisions, limitations, and exclusions of the insurance offered.
4. All cancellation requests must be received in writing (by mail or e-mail).
5. There is no provision for refund for any activities missed due to the participant's absence once the tour has started.

INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS:

1. All inclusions on *Ancient Islands* are listed on this itinerary.
2. The following are not included (unless specifically mentioned in the itinerary): transportation to and from the participant's home to their chosen departure airport, passport fees, excess baggage charges, drinks (other than water) with meals and items of a personal nature.

AIR TRANSPORTATION:

1. Discover Europe will be very happy to book your flights for you. The fee for this service is \$25 per ticket.
2. If you are arranging your own flights to join the tour, it is essential that Discover Europe has your complete flight information. Please make sure you give us the: dates of travel, airline(s), flight numbers, departure and arrival times and airports for all flight segments.

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Enclosed is my/our check for \$ _____ (\$800 per person), payable to "Discover Europe Ltd" to reserve _____ place(s) on Smith College's *Ancient Islands* tour, departing the US on June 16, 2014.

Or, charge my/our deposit of \$ _____ (\$800 per person) to my/our:

MASTERCARD VISA CARD NUMBER _____
 EXP. DATE _____ SECURITY CODE _____
 CARD HOLDER SIGNATURE _____
 BILLING ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

NAME 1 (as in passport) _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____
 NAME 2 (as in passport) _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____
 _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE (home) _____ PHONE (cell) _____
 EMAIL _____ PHONE (work) _____

ACCOMMODATIONS:

- DOUBLE ROOM (one bed) TWIN ROOM (two beds) SINGLE ROOM

WAIVER OF LIABILITY: By signing below I/we acknowledge and comply with the Terms and Conditions and Responsibilities stated in this brochure (if registering for two people, both parties must sign and date).

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____
 SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Please sign up through the following options:

Mail your deposit with this form to:

Smith Travel, Office of Alumnae Relations, 33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063.

Checks should be made payable to Discover Europe Ltd

Fax this form with completed credit card information to:

Smith Travel at (413) 585 2015