



WORLD AFFAIRS
COUNCIL OF
PHILADELPHIA
& PARTNERS

AFRICA'S GOLD COAST

Exploring
History, Culture &
Contemporary Affairs
on a Voyage From
Ghana to Senegal

April 18 - May 3, 2025

Mother carrying her child. Banjul, Gambia



Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship *DIANA*



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& PARTNERS**

In a Ghanaian market, a woman pounds dough into fufu with a mortar and pestle. Cars zip around villagers in zigzag gowns of crimson, orange, and indigo, balancing baskets on their heads. This is Africa, right now - a myriad-hued mosaic of cultures, landscapes, and ancient wilderness with a richness and diversity that's difficult to comprehend. This is the Africa that few people have a chance to see, a vast continent of awe-inspiring beauty, natural drama, hope, promise, friendship, and generosity. Many past travelers say that a trip to Africa changed their lives - broadening their imagination of the world in extraordinary ways. Our cruise along West Africa's coast, featuring some of the continent's most attractive places, is rare, indeed.

We are pleased to be sharing this journey with members of Commonwealth Club World Affairs and California Alumni Association whose accompanying faculty member is **Vincent H. Resh**, Professor of Environmental Science and Policy & Management at UC Berkeley. He will share his experience and expertise with us in a series of lectures and discussions throughout the voyage.

Your vessel for this extraordinary journey, the Swan Hellenic *Diana*, is a state-of-the-art, new-generation expedition cruise ship, launched in early 2023. Accommodating only 192 guests in beautifully appointed staterooms and balcony suites, *Diana* features several lounges, a restaurant, outdoor cafe, spa, library and beauty salon, and is equipped with the latest safety and environmentally-friendly technology.

Please take a moment to look over the enclosed brochure and then begin making plans to join the company of stimulating fellow travelers on this once-in-a-lifetime educational travel adventure.

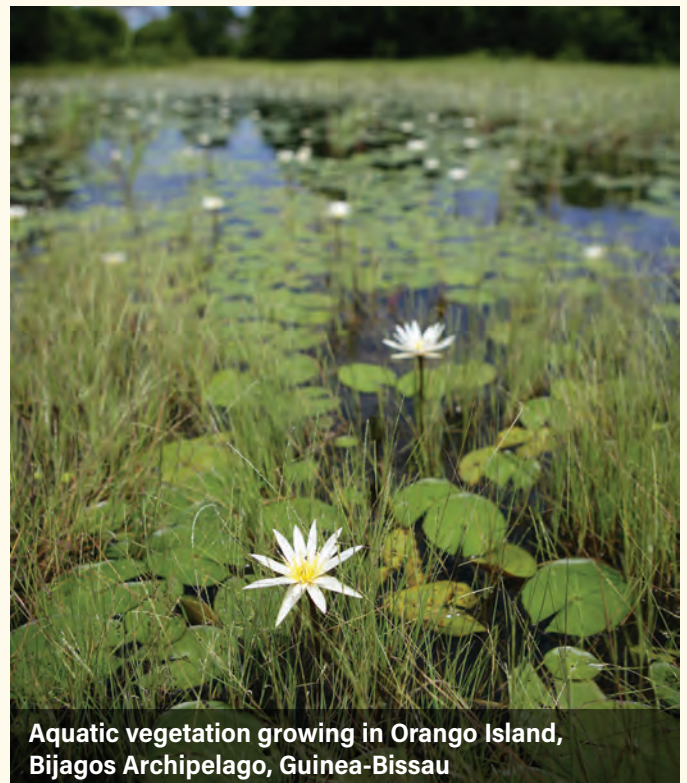
AKRON ♦ ALABAMA ♦ ALASKA ♦ ARIZONA ♦ ATLANTA ♦ AUSTIN
BALTIMORE ♦ BOSTON ♦ BUFFALO ♦ CHARLESTON ♦ CHARLOTTE ♦ CHICAGO
GREATER ♦ CINCINNATI ♦ CLEVELAND ♦ COLORADO SPRINGS ♦ COLUMBUS
CONNECTICUT ♦ DALLAS ♦ FORT WORTH ♦ DAYTON ♦ DENVER ♦ GREATER
HAMPTON ROADS ♦ HARRISBURG ♦ HILTON HEAD ♦ HOUSTON ♦ INLAND
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ♦ JACKSONVILLE ♦ KANSAS CITY ♦ KENTUCKY
SOUTH INDIANA ♦ LAS VEGAS ♦ LOS ANGELES ♦ MAINE ♦ MID-HUDSON VALLEY
MILWAUKEE ♦ MONTANA ♦ MONTEREY BAY ♦ NAPLES ♦ NEW ORLEANS
NEW HAMPSHIRE ♦ NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ♦ ORANGE COUNTY ♦ OREGON
PALM BEACH ♦ PEORIA ♦ PITTSBURGH ♦ GREATER READING ♦ RHODE ISLAND
RICHMOND ♦ SAN ANTONIO ♦ SAN DIEGO ♦ SANTA FE ♦ SAVANNAH
SEATTLE ♦ SONOMA COUNTY ♦ SOUTH TEXAS ♦ ST. LOUIS ♦ STAMFORD
TACOMA ♦ TENNESSEE ♦ TRAVERSE CITY ♦ UTAH ♦ VERMONT
WESTERN COLORADO ♦ WESTERN MICHIGAN ♦ WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

SPECIAL GUEST LECTURER

VINCENT H. RESH



Vincent H. Resh has been a professor of Environmental Science, Policy & Management at the University of California, Berkeley since 1975. Professor Resh has been an adviser to the World Health Organization and other United Nations Organizations for over 20 years in evaluating human impacts on water resources in developing countries in Asia and Africa. He also serves on various scientific advisory boards on water issues in California. He received the University of California's Distinguished Teaching Award in 1995 and has taught about issues related to water and the environment to over 20,000 Berkeley undergraduates.



Aquatic vegetation growing in Orango Island, Bijagos Archipelago, Guinea-Bissau

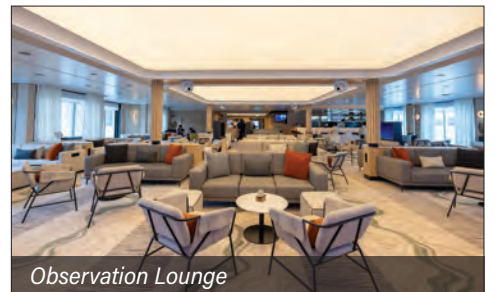
THE NEW 192-GUEST EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP *DIANA*



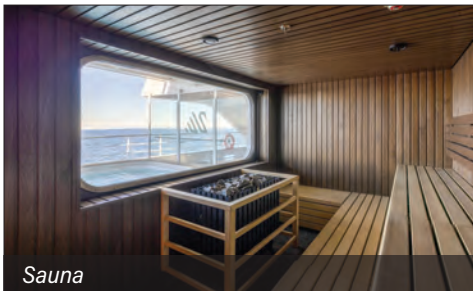
Oceanview Stateroom



Balcony Suite



Observation Lounge



Sauna



Club Lounge



Outdoor Café/Bar with swimming pool

Built in Finland, and launched in April 2023, Swan Hellenic's *Diana* is a new generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 12,100 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 350 passengers, *Diana* will accommodate a maximum of 192 guests in 96 spacious staterooms and balcony suites. The low guest density results in one of the most generous indoor and outdoor space-to-guest ratios among cruise ships.

Featuring the latest advances in technology and engineering, *Diana* is among the world's first environmentally responsible ships. Equipped with hybrid engines and a unique water filtration system, *Diana* leaves a minimal footprint. For cruising in Polar regions, the ship meets the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code with its high PC5 Category A ice strengthened hull and other advanced features. A computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 135 experienced European officers and international crew members, *Diana* will

carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, and kayaks. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

Diana's interior spaces exude sophisticated elegance, with most rooms opening to panoramic views of the sea. All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, Wi-Fi and USB connections and other amenities. Of the ship's 96 staterooms, 76 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for lectures and presentations; a club lounge; a restaurant that accommodates all guests at one seating; an outdoor café/bar that surrounds the heated swimming pool; a wellness area with gym, spa, and sauna with an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor and nurse. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis. The outstanding cuisine is complemented by fine wines at lunch and dinner.

FOR INFORMATION AND RESERVATIONS, PLEASE CALL WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF PHILADELPHIA AT 800-942-5004, EXT 231 or EXT 209

ITINERARY



Friday, April 18, 2025

DEPART THE UNITED STATES

Saturday, April 19

ACCRA, Ghana

Arrive in Accra and transfer to the *Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast*. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a welcome dinner. (D)

Sunday, April 20

ACCRA/EMBARKATION

After breakfast at the hotel, begin our tour of Ghana's capital with a visit to the fine collections of the National Museum of Ghana. Following lunch at a local restaurant, spend time browsing the shops and stalls of Accra's justly famous crafts market before transferring to the port of Tema to embark *Diana* in late afternoon and set sail. (B,L,D)

Monday, April 21

CAPE COAST

We will visit Cape Coast Castle, built by the Portuguese in the 15th century and now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It was through



A canopy walkway rises above the forest floor of Ghana's Kakum National Park.

these fortifications that millions of Africans were forced on slave ships bound for the Americas. Learn about this dark time in West Africa's history during a visit to the Cape Coast Castle and museum. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, April 22

ELMINA

Depart Elmina and drive north to Kakum National Park. In Kakum's extensive rainforest, we will encounter a marvelous diversity of wildlife, including endangered mammals such as forest elephants, bongo antelopes, and primates like the endangered Diana monkey as well as colobus monkeys, over 250 species of birds, and some 600 varieties of butterfly. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, April 23

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast

This morning's tour of Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire's commercial and financial capital, includes the immense Hôtel Ivoire; the Italian-designed St. Paul's Cathedral, one of Africa's most elaborate churches; and the National Museum of Abidjan, showcasing statues, masks, jewelry, tools, carved doors, tom-toms and musical instruments from every region of the country. In the afternoon, travel to the nearby town of Grand-Bassam, Côte d'Ivoire's first capital, which in the words of the UNESCO "bears witness to the complex social relations between Europeans and Africans, and to the subsequent independence movement." (B,L,D)

Thursday, April 24

AT SEA

Enjoy a day at sea, attend lectures by your special guest lecturer and briefings from the expert expedition staff. Also use the time simply to relax and enjoy cruising the open sea, perhaps treating yourself to some of *Diana's* many amenities. (B,L,D)

Friday, April 25

MONROVIA, Liberia

Arrive today in Monrovia, the capital of Liberia named after United States President James Monroe. Our tour of the city begins with a visit to the National Museum, featuring excellent exhibits of Liberia's famed tribal masks, sacred to the Dan people, as well as other cultural artifacts of the region. We will also spend time at the bustling Waterside Market, where marvelously colorful textiles and other handicrafts are offered for sale by local merchants. (B,L,D)

Saturday, April 26

AT SEA

Today you may attend lectures from your guest lecturer and briefings from the expert expedition staff, simply relax and enjoy cruising the open sea, or perhaps treat yourself to some of *Diana's* many amenities. (B,L,D)

Sunday, April 27

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone

Today, explore the Sierra Leone Museum and its wonderful collection of masks and drums and browse the city's colorful markets. After lunch, travel to Regent Village, where we visit a collection of early



Freetown, Sierra Leone

19th-century Krio-style houses, the architectural counterpart of the language that defines their culture. Visit the nearby Tacugama Chimpanzee Sanctuary before returning the ship. (B,L,D)

Monday, April 28

AT SEA

Today you may attend lectures from your guest lecturer and briefings from the expert expedition staff, simply relax and enjoy cruising the open sea, or perhaps treat yourself to some of *Diana's* many amenities. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, April 29 and Wednesday, April 30

BIJAGOS ARCHIPELAGO, Guinea-Bissau

Spend one and a half days exploring the Bijagos Archipelago, a cluster of 88 pristine and seldom visited islands, of which only 23 are inhabited. Their impressive biodiversity and abundant flora and fauna have been recognized as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. In the true spirit of exploration, our exact itinerary in this remote group of islands will be flexible to take advantage of the best landing opportunities. (B,L,D)

Thursday, May 1

BANJUL, Gambia

Founded by the British early in the 19th century, Banjul is Gambia's capital and commercial center. We will travel to the Abuko Nature

Reserve, one of the country's last surviving examples of tropical riverine forests. Within it are about 300 species of birds, as well as red colobus monkeys and callithrix marmosets. We will also visit the Makasutu Culture Forest, a private nature habitat of beautiful woodlands and waterways, where we will enjoy lunch. Returning to Banjul, we visit the National Museum, whose exhibits illustrate the history and culture of the country. (B,L,D)

Friday, May 2

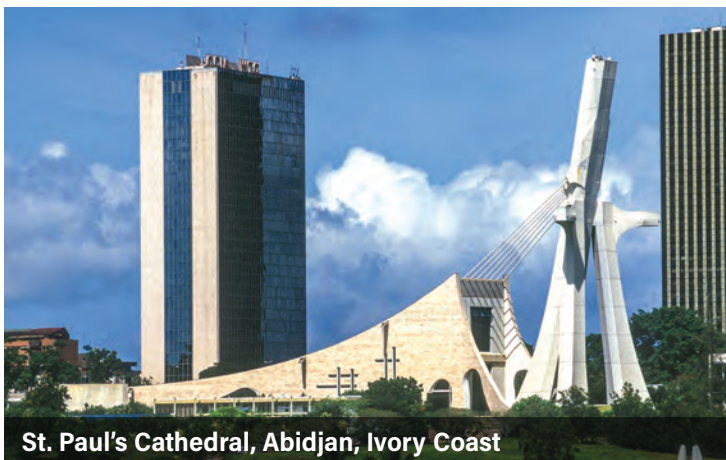
DAKAR, Senegal

Once a small settlement on the Cap Vert peninsula, Africa's westernmost point, Dakar has grown into a great metropolis. This morning, visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Gorée Island, a center of the West African Slave Trade, where our tour includes the Historical Museum, the Slave House, St. Charles de Borromée Church, and the Castle Fortress, with views across the channel to Dakar. In the afternoon, tour the main sites of the city— Place de L'Independence, the Presidential Palace, the Great Mosque—before exploring the IFAN Museum of African Arts, one of the continent's best collections. *Diana* is docked overnight in Dakar. (B,L,D)

Saturday, May 3

DAKAR/DISEMBARK

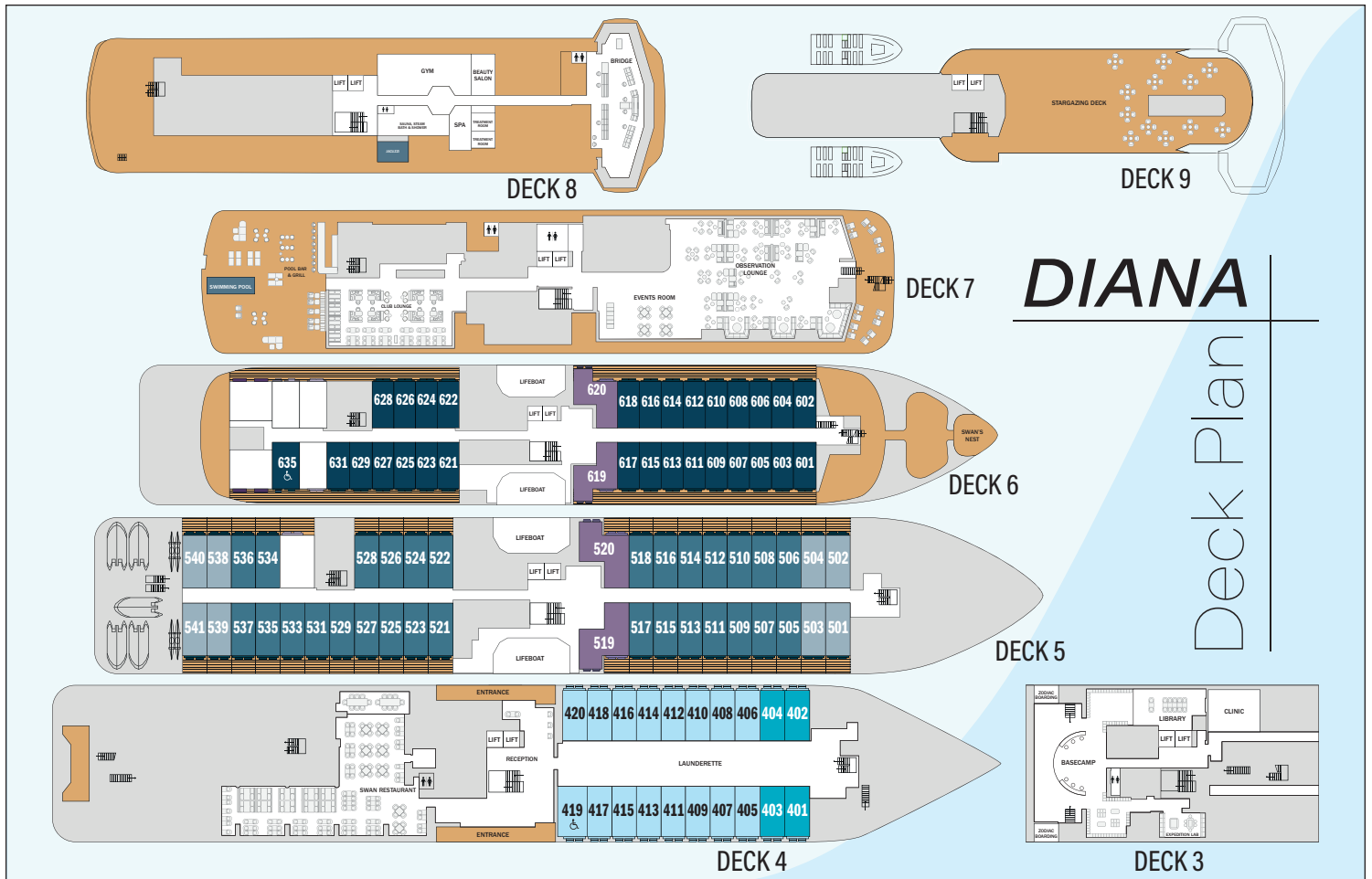
After breakfast, disembark and transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)



St. Paul's Cathedral, Abidjan, Ivory Coast



Handwoven baskets, Accra



All accommodations aboard *Diana* are spacious staterooms and balcony suites. They are elegantly decorated, face outside, affording sea views, and include a queen-size bed that can be arranged as two twin beds, a spacious bathroom, mini-refrigerator, safe, ample closet space, climate control, telephone, TV, Wi-Fi, and USB connections, as well as other amenities.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	RATES PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
E	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401-404.	\$10,690
D	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405-420.	\$11,290
C	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501-504, 538-541.	\$13,590
B	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505-518, 521-529, 531-537.	\$14,190
A	Suites with balcony and living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601-618, 621-635.	\$14,790
AA	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 474 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 519, 520, 619 & 620.	\$18,290

FOR SOLO TRAVELERS | Cabins for single occupancy are available at the following lower than normal supplements: For Categories E & D 20% of the per person double occupancy rate. For Categories C, B & A 50% of the per person double occupancy rate.

LOYALTY REWARD PROGRAM

Travel on this cruise program and enjoy savings of **\$400 to \$900** per person on your next voyage with **WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL and THALASSA JOURNEYS** aboard a Swan Hellenic ship. Savings are determined by the stateroom category booked and is applicable when you reserve your trip within 30 days of the completion date of **AFRICA'S GOLD COAST**

This saving cannot be combined with other offers and is subject to change.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

The rates are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs and no additional charges such as shore excursions or embarkation and port charges. Other than the international airfare and expenses of a personal nature, all else is included. Specifically, the rates include:

- One night at the *Kempinski Hotel Gold Coast* (or similar) in Ghana.
- Cruise aboard the Swan Hellenic *Diana*, as described in the itinerary.
- Group airport/hotel/pier transfers overseas at designated times, and handling of luggage.
- Lectures and discussions with UC Berkeley professor, Vincent H. Resh.
- Complete program of tours and excursions with expert local guides as described in the itinerary.
- All meals aboard the ship, with a selection of wines, beer, and soft drinks during lunch and dinner.
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard the ship hosted by the captain.
- Open bar with select alcoholic beverages.
- Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea, and soft drinks throughout the day and night.
- 24-hour room service.
- Gratuities to the ship's crew, guides, porters, and drivers.
- Basic Wi-Fi aboard the ship.
- The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys trip director.
- All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
- Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.



Traditional architecture of Senegal's Gorée Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

REGISTRATION

WACP 25D-0418

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$ 1,500 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on **AFRICA'S GOLD COAST**, April 18th - May 3rd, 2025 with World Affairs Council. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check.

You may visit our website to submit your reservation online or send a check payable to Thalassa Journeys with this reservation form to:

Thalassa Journeys: 8815 Conroy-Windermere Rd., Suite 406, Orlando, FL 32835

Email: travel@wacphila.org

Phone: 800-942-5004 or 215-561-4700 x 231 or x 209 • **Fax:** 215-561-5660.

Visit our website to submit your reservation online.

<https://wacphila.org/travel/africas-gold-coast>

PLEASE SELECT STATEROOM CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

Double Occupancy Single Occupancy (Inquire for rates)

PREFERRED BED CONFIGURATION Double _____ Twin _____

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

TELEPHONE (DAY) (EVENING)

E-MAIL

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

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 71-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 70 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.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. 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.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Thalassa Journeys.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the traveler and Thalassa Journeys. Thalassa Journeys acts solely as agents for the traveler with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the traveler'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 traveler or in affecting these tours. We 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 traveler, 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 traveler 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 traveler's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the traveler beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, transportation methods, 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 traveler 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 traveler 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 travelers. 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 travelers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the traveler'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 Florida, pursuant to applicable Florida law.

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.

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