THALASSA JOURNEYS
Beyond the ordinary

With **PROFESSOR BART D. EHRMAN**,
Distinguished Guest Lecturer

PASSAGE FROM ICELAND TO AMSTERDAM

Exploring Iceland, the Faroe and Scottish Isles & Mainland Scotland

Aboard the Expedition Cruise Ship *DIANA*

August 13 – 25, 2027



Funningsfjørður, Faroe Islands

THALASSA JOURNEYS

Beyond the ordinary

Dear Friends,

In August 2027, join us on a fascinating voyage from Iceland to Amsterdam, exploring the remote Faroe Islands, the storied Scottish Isles, and historic Edinburgh. Discover dramatic volcanic landscapes, Viking heritage, mysterious prehistoric monuments, and some of the North Atlantic's most spectacular coastlines.

The journey begins in Reykjavík, where Icelandic history and culture provide an introduction to the region before embarking aboard Swan Hellenic's *Diana*. In the Westman Islands, explore landscapes shaped by ancient and recent geological events, traditional Icelandic life, and thriving seabird colonies. Continue to the Faroe Islands, including Funningur and Tórshavn, where Viking heritage and prehistoric monuments offer fascinating glimpses into the spiritual practices and beliefs of earlier peoples.

Throughout the voyage our distinguished guest lecturer **Bart Ehrman** will explore how beliefs evolve and transform as cultures encounter one another across time. Drawing on the ancient worlds of northern Europe, his lectures and informal discussions will examine the development of ideas and the historical roots and evolution of early Christian beliefs. Fellow travelers will bring their intellectual curiosity and diverse perspectives to these engaging conversations, fostering a shared spirit of inquiry and discovery.

The elegant *Diana* will serve as a welcoming home throughout the voyage, offering spacious accommodations, expansive decks, excellent cuisine, and comfortable gathering spaces for conversation and reflection. Designed for exploration in these northern waters, the ship provides an ideal setting to appreciate the surrounding landscapes while connecting with fellow travelers.

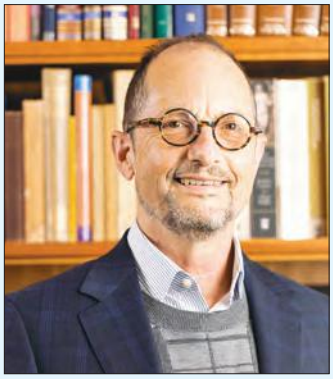
From rugged coastlines and prehistoric wonders to the Gothic grandeur of Edinburgh, this extraordinary journey combines history, culture, and natural beauty with thought-provoking lectures and lively discussion. Join us for an enriching exploration of the ideas, traditions, and civilizations that have shaped our understanding of the world.

Warm regards,

Thalassa Journeys

DISTINGUISHED GUEST LECTURER

PROFESSOR BART D. EHRMAN



Bart D. Ehrman is the James A. Gray Distinguished Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he has taught since 1988. Professor Ehrman has published extensively in the fields of New Testament and Early Christianity, having written or edited thirty-three books, including six New York Times Bestsellers: *Misquoting Jesus*; *God's Problem*; *Jesus Interrupted*; *How Jesus Became God*; and *The Triumph of Christianity*.

His Introduction to the New Testament has been the most widely used textbook in colleges and universities for over twenty years and he has recorded ten lecture courses for The Great Courses (The Teaching Company). More than two million copies of his books and courses have been sold, and his books have been translated into twenty-seven languages.

Ehrman's work has been featured in the *New Yorker*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post* and other print media. He has appeared on NBC's Dateline, CNN, The History Channel, National Geographic, the Discovery Channel, the BBC, Fresh Air, other major NPR shows, The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, the Colbert Report, and other top media outlets.

A widely sought after lecturer, and winner of numerous university awards and grants, Professor Ehrman also has a weekly podcast, *Misquoting Jesus*, runs a daily blog the New Testament and early Christianity (The Bart Ehrman Blog), and produces online courses connected with the historical study of the Bible and Christian antiquity (www.bartehrman.com).

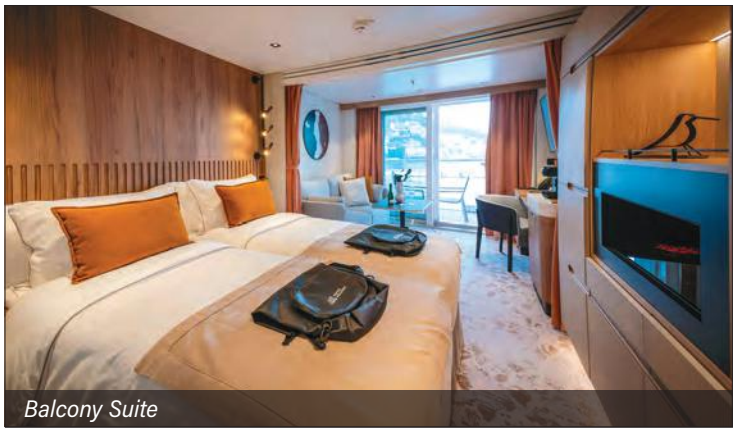


Puffins of the Faroe Islands



THE 192-GUEST EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP ***DIANA***


Oceanview Stateroom


Balcony Suite


Swan Restaurant


Swimming Pool

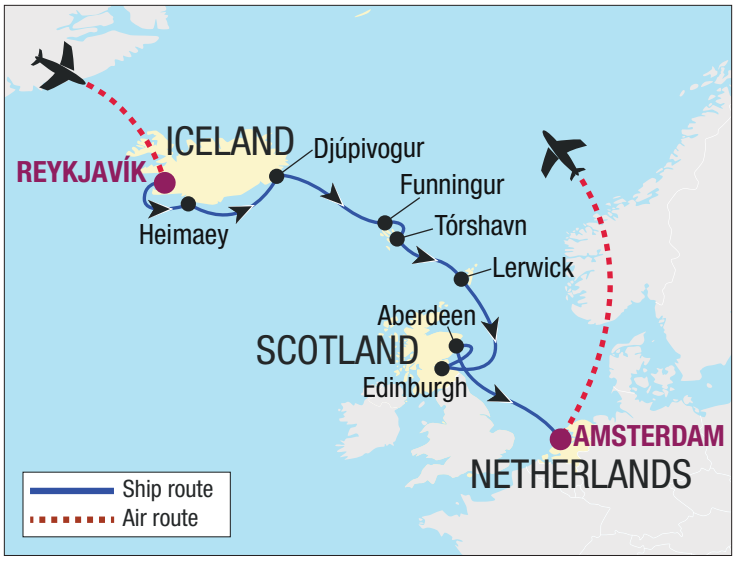

Observation Lounge

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.

ITINERARY



Friday, August 13, 2027
DEPART THE US
Depart the United States on overnight flights for Keflavík, Iceland.

Saturday, August 14
KEFLAVÍK, Iceland/REYKJAVÍK
Arrive at Keflavík Airport and transfer to the *Canopy by Hilton Reykjavik City Center Hotel* (or similar) in Reykjavík, Iceland's vibrant capital, to check in for one night. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner with fellow travelers, special lecturer Bart Ehrman, and your Tour Director. (D)

Sunday, August 15
REYKJAVÍK/EMBARK *DIANA*
After breakfast at the hotel, explore Reykjavík with a panoramic bus tour of the city's major attractions. Highlights include Parliament; the striking Hallgrimskirkja, Iceland's largest church; and the Höfði house, site of the 1986 Reagan-Gorbachev Summit. Tour the encyclopedic collection of the National Museum, then continue to lunch at a local restaurant. In the late afternoon, transfer to the port to embark the Swan Hellenic *Diana*. Settle into comfortable staterooms and enjoy dinner as your voyage begins. (B, L, D)


Vatnajökull National Park, Iceland

Monday, August 16
HEIMAEY, Westman Islands
Diana calls this morning in rugged Heimaey. Discover local heritage with visits to a fascinating folk museum and a traditional farm settlement, then detour to Stórhöfði Cape for stunning views and possible wildlife sightings – Heimaey is the summer home to millions of seabirds, including puffins, fulmars, and guillemots. Later, take in a scenic valley framed by two volcanoes: 5,000-year-old Helgafell ("Holy Mountain") and much younger Eldfell ("Fire Mountain") which erupted in 1973 and forced an evacuation of the entire population, notably without loss of life. Return to the ship for lunch and cruise northeast for the balance of the day. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 17
DJÚPIVOGUR/HEINABERGSJÖKULL GLACIER/ HVALNES/DJÚPIVOGUR
Set foot ashore in the serene fishing village of Djúpivogur, a portal to captivating natural beauty and Icelandic culture. Transfer through breathtaking landscapes to the fringe of the Vatnajökull National Park, which covers 14 percent of Iceland. At Heinabergsjökull Glacier, stretch your legs with a light guided hike that offers remarkable vistas of the glacier and its lagoon. Admire the black-pebble strand and the picturesque lighthouse in Hvalnes Nature Reserve en route back to the port. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 18
FUNNINGUR, Faroe Islands, Denmark
Arrive in the remote Faroe Islands, seldom visited due to their location in the middle of the North Atlantic. Venture ashore in Funningur, whose tiny population enjoys an ancient and atmospheric setting: in the shadow of Slættaratindur, the highest peak in the Faroe Islands, nestled between cascading streams and the deep waters of Funningsfjørður. The village is cloaked in Faroese legend and history as the place where the first Viking settlers made landfall over 1,200 years ago. In the evening, *Diana* cruises onward to Tórshavn, where she will overnight in port. (B, L, D)

Thursday, August 19
TÓRSHAVN
After breakfast, discover the pint-sized port town of Tórshavn, which has been the Faroe Islands' capital since the Vikings founded a settlement here in the 9th century. Highlights include a walking tour of the quaint old quarter of Tinganes, where small wooden houses are roofed with turf; sweeping views from 16th-century Fort Skansin; and exhibits that cover a broad array of subjects in the National Museum of the Faroe Islands. (B, L, D)

Friday, August 20
LERWICK, Shetland Islands, United Kingdom
The ship arrives in the lively harbor of Lerwick, capital of the Shetland Archipelago and Britain's northernmost town. First inhabited during


Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

the Stone Age, the Shetlands were later ruled by Norsemen for centuries before being annexed by Scotland in 1472. Drive through the lush Tingwall Valley to learn about the lives of tenant farmers who till the land within the peculiarly Scottish system of "crofting" at one such small-scale farm. Stop at several scenic viewpoints on the return to Lerwick. Back in town, visit the Shetland Museum and explore independently before all-aboard in the late afternoon. (B, L, D)

Saturday, August 21
MORNING AT SEA/EDINBURGH

In the early evening, *Diana* arrives in Edinburgh, one of Europe's most dramatic capitals. The city rises around a volcanic crag crowned by its medieval castle, its skyline unchanged in centuries. *Diana* remains in port overnight on August 21 and 22. (B, L, D)

Sunday, August 22
EDINBURGH, Scotland

Enchanting Edinburgh offers ample attractions. Morning brings a drive along the elegant Royal Mile to take in its Victorian-influenced architecture on the way to see the imposing entrance of Edinburgh Castle. Later, proceed to tour the historic State Apartments and Great Gallery in the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official residence of the British monarchy in Scotland; and view the brooding medieval ruins of Holyrood Abbey, with the iconic, jagged outcropping Arthur's Seat as a backdrop. (B, L, D)


Palace of Holyroodhouse, Edinburgh, Scotland

Monday, August 23
ABERDEEN

Arrive in Aberdeen, the "Granite City," for an excursion to Scotland's famed castle country. The large peninsula of Aberdeenshire pushes into the North Sea and is home to some 260 castles, more than any other part of the United Kingdom. Visit a working Highland Cow farm and learn about the owner's special cattle-rearing methods and her herd's unique qualities. After lunch at a local restaurant on the leafy banks of the River Dee, explore Drum Castle and its spectacular, historic collections and gardens. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 24
DAY AT SEA

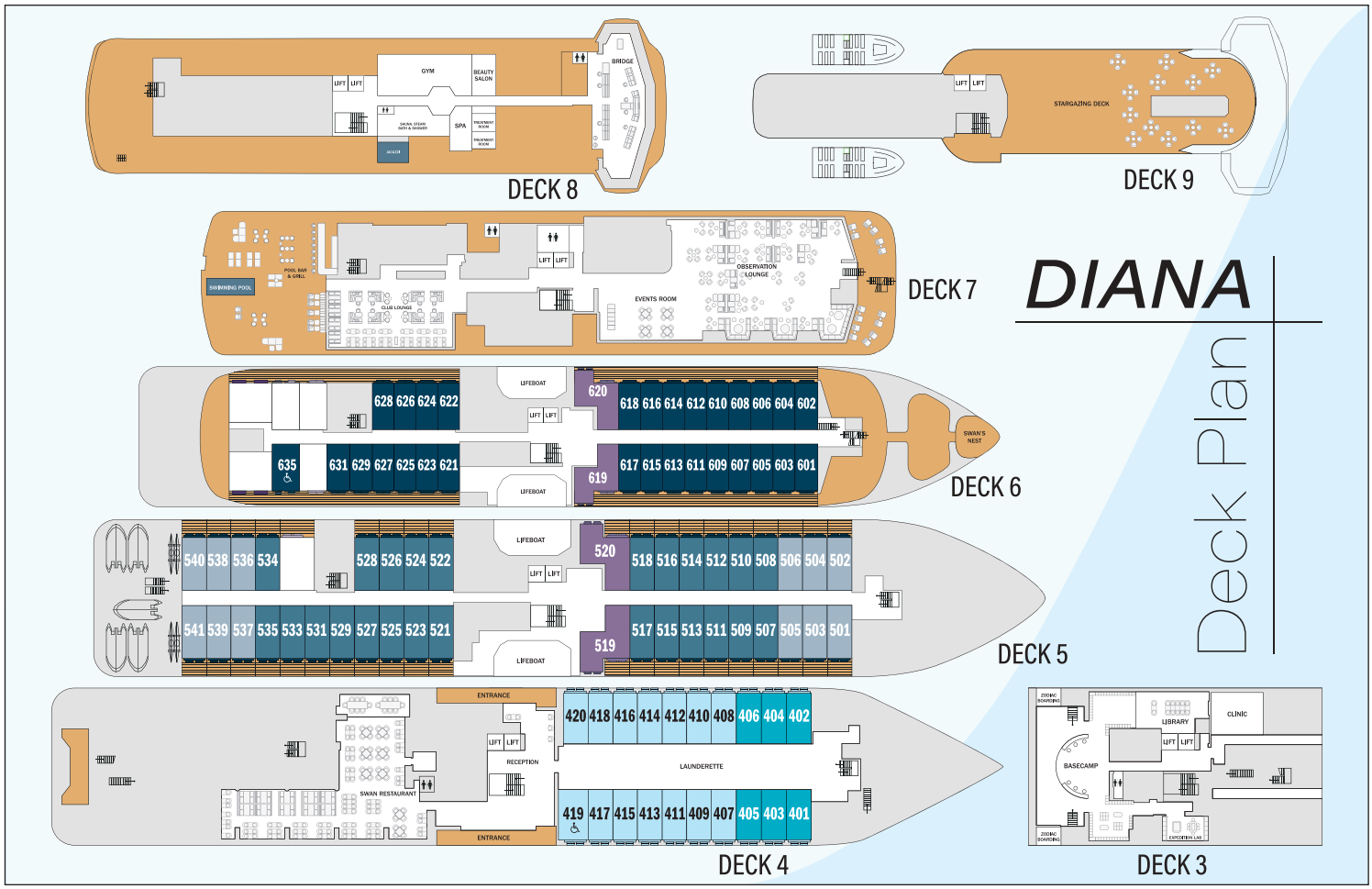
During this day on the water, attend informative lectures, relax and enjoy cruising the open sea, and treat yourself to some of the many amenities aboard *Diana*, bound for the Netherlands. This evening brings a festive onboard farewell dinner. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 25
AMSTERDAM, The Netherlands/DISEMBARK/ HOMEWARD

After breakfast, disembark in Amsterdam and head to the airport for flights homeward. (B)

ABOUT THALASSA JOURNEYS

Thalassa Journeys is a tour company founded by the men and women who, working as Travel Dynamics International, pioneered educational and cultural travel in the 1970s in partnership with the leading educational, research, cultural and performing arts institutions in the United States. For more than 45 years our mission was to provide robust, intellectually stimulating experiences to lifelong learners who see travel as an opportunity to expand their understanding of the world and their place in it. This same mission guides us today. We believe that the most rewarding travel experiences happen when small groups of like-minded individuals share an enthusiasm for engaging with the richly varied environments of the world, and with the history, culture, ideas and ideals of the people who inhabit them.



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 401–406.	$ 11,690
D	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 407–420.	$ 11,990
C	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501–506, 536–541.	$ 12,590
B	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 507–518, 521–529, 531–535.	$ 12,990
A	Suites with balcony and living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601–618, 621–635.	$ 13,490
AA	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 474 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 519, 520, 619 & 620.	$ 17,390

FOR SOLO TRAVELERS | A limited number of cabins are available for single occupants in Category D at 120% of the per-person, double occupancy rate, and in Categories C, B, and A at 150% 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 **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 **PASSAGE FROM ICELAND TO AMSTERDAM**

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

THALASSA
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Beyond the ordinary

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Join **Professor Bart D. Ehrman** on **PASSAGE FROM ICELAND TO AMSTERDAM**

For Reservations and Information, Please Call 866-633-3611
or Email: reservations@thalassajourneys.com



***Diana* in Heimaey Island, Iceland**

LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS JOURNEY

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 *Canopy by Hilton Reykjavik City Center Hotel* (or similar) in Reykjavík.
- Welcome dinner on the day of arrival.
- Cruise aboard the Swan Hellenic *Diana*, as described in the itinerary.
- Lectures and discussions with Bart Ehrman.
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers and luggage handling on the program arrival and departure dates.
- 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 aboard the ship.
- 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.



Hallgrimskirkja (National Cathedral), Reykjavík, Iceland

REGISTRATION

TJLL 27D-0813

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $_____($ 2,000 per person) as a deposit to hold_____ place(s) on ***PASSAGE FROM ICELAND TO AMSTERDAM***, August 13 – 25, 2027 with Thalassa Journeys. I understand that final payment is due one hundred twenty (120) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card. We accept Visa, Mastercard, or Discover credit cards.

For reservations, please call Thalassa Journeys at: (866) 633-3611
or email: reservations@thalassajourneys.com
or make a check payable and mail with this registration form to:
Thalassa Journeys: 8815 Conroy-Windermere Rd., Suite 406, Orlando, FL 32835

❑ Visa ❑ Mastercard ❑ Discover

No. _____

Exp. _____ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code_____

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 (HOME) (CELL)

_____
EMAIL

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 $2,000 per person is required to reserve space on the tour. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.
CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations received more than 120 days prior to departure are subject to a $400 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 120 to 90 days pre-departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 20% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received 89 to 61 days pre-departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 70% 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 one chooses 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 effected 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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