



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
of SMITH COLLEGE

VOYAGE TO THE BLACK SEA

CROSSROADS OF CULTURE FROM
THE ANCIENT PAST TO THE PRESENT

ABOARD THE ALL-SUITE, 114-GUEST *CORINTHIAN II*
AUGUST 3 - 13, 2008



Odessa, Ukraine

SMITH COLLEGE LECTURER



SCOTT BRADBURY is a Professor of Classical Languages and Literatures at Smith College. He specializes in the history of the Later Roman Empire, particularly the Greek East, and in ancient religions. His most recent publication is a translation from ancient Greek of the letters of Libanius of Antioch (A.D. 314-393), a noted teacher, writer, and public speaker. His current project, supported by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, is a social history based on Libanius's correspondence. At Smith he teaches courses in Greek and Latin, as well as Classical Mythology and Paganism in the Greco-Roman World. He has twice directed Smith's Junior Year in Florence program. He takes great pleasure in guiding visitors through ancient archaeological sites and he looks forward to meeting his fellow passengers.

NANCY MASON BRADBURY is a fellow alumna, Class of '74, and Professor of English Language and Literature at Smith. She teaches Chaucer, Arthurian Literature, Victorian Medievalism, and a seminar called Literature, Folklore, and Fakelore. She writes about medieval literature, especially Chaucer, and about folklore genres such as the legend, folktale, and proverb. With her husband, Scott, she shares a deep love for Mediterranean places—old, highly civilized, stunningly beautiful countries with vibrantly expressive languages and culinary traditions that feed the soul as well as the body. The Bradburys have one son, a history major at Amherst College.



The Sumela Monastery, Trabzon, Turkey

Dear Smith Alumnae and Friends,

Since the days of the legendary voyage of Jason and his Argonauts aboard the *Argo*, back in the mists of time, the Black Sea, bordered by Turkey, Georgia, Russia, Ukraine, Romania and Bulgaria, has attracted adventurers, colonists, conquerors and superpowers. Yet this area is new territory for the majority of Western travelers. We are pleased to invite you on *Voyage to the Black Sea: Crossroads of Culture from the Ancient Past to the Present*, a journey that explores several of the most important port towns, sites and monuments of this magnificent sea.

From fabled Istanbul, which has always guarded the entrance to the Black Sea, we will sail along Turkey's northern coast, stopping in the ancient port city of Trabzon, for an excursion to the amazing Sumela Monastery, built on the sheer side of a green mountain. From there, we continue to lovely Crimea, the playground of the Czars, where we will explore historic Yalta and Sevastopol, before continuing to cosmopolitan and energetic Odessa, built in the 18th century on orders of Catherine the Great as Russia's outlet to the Mediterranean. Splendid palaces, grand shaded avenues and cobblestone streets grace this beautiful city. Heading south, we will then cruise along the shores of Romania and Bulgaria to enter the Bosphorus, the narrow strait that separates Europe from Asia, and dock in Istanbul, thus completing our journey around the Black Sea.

A distinctive feature of this unique itinerary is a series of special events and activities we have organized at the ports of call, including the following:

- We will be hosted by the Mayor of Bartin, in northern Turkey, and enjoy local delicacies.
- Meet with local families in their homes in Odessa.
- Attend a private concert at the restored Organ Hall on the grounds of Yalta's Livadia Palace.
- Taste a sampling of wines from Crimea's finest estates.
- After a walking tour in Amasya, enjoy a Turkish lunch at a spectacularly situated restaurant overlooking the Iris River Valley and the Tombs of the Pontic Kings.

We have little doubt this will be a splendid experience for all. We encourage you to place your reservation today.

Warm regards,



Carrie Cadwell Brown, Ed.M '82
Executive Director



ITINERARY

Sunday, August 3 **USA**

Fly from the U.S. to Istanbul, Turkey.

Monday, August 4 **ISTANBUL, TURKEY | EMBARK**

Arrive in Istanbul and transfer to the port to embark on *Corinthian II*. Sail through the Bosphorus, entering the Black Sea in the evening. (D)

Tuesday, August 5 **BARTIN | AMASRA | BARTIN**

Relax aboard ship as we cruise alongside ancient Paphlagonia. Upon arriving in Bartin, drive to Amasra (the *Iliad's* Sesamus), which is poised atop a headland sheltering two bays and known as one of the Black Sea's most beautiful towns. Explore the Genoese citadel, which crowns one of the promontories with a constellation of towers, battlements and gates. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 6 **SAMSUN | AMASYA | SAMSUN**

A scenic drive from Samsun brings us to Amasya, beautifully situated in a narrow gorge on the Iris River, flanked by towering cliffs. Stand atop one of these cliffs for a magnificent view of the city, which, according to legend, was founded by the Amazon queen Amasis. Tour the royal tombs of the Pontic Kings carved into the rock, and enjoy lunch at a restaurant high on the hill, with sweeping views of the town below. (B, L, D)



Thursday, August 7 **TRABZON | SUMELA MONASTERY | TRABZON**

Trabzon, the ancient Trapezus, lies on a small tableland between two deep ravines, and was one of antiquity's greatest cities and commercial centers. Travel to the Sumela Monastery, founded in the 4th century and situated high in the mountains in a spectacular setting. (B, L, D)

Friday, August 8 **AT SEA | YALTA, CRIMEA, UKRAINE**

Make the most of *Corinthian II's* facilities and attend lectures as we cruise toward Yalta. In the mid-19th century, the Russian imperial family chose Yalta for its summer residence and almost overnight the town grew into an elegant and popular resort. Enjoy an evening of exploring on your own the city's bustling waterfront promenade. Overnight aboard ship. (B, L, D)



Amasya, Turkey



Chersonesos, Ukraine

Saturday, August 9 **YALTA |**

SEVASTOPOL

Built against wooded hillsides and surrounded by vineyards and orchards, Yalta retains an unmistakably strong Mediterranean character. Visit the Alupka Palace, an amazing 19th-century edifice with both English Tudor and Byzantine embellishments. Continue to the Livadia Palace, once the summer retreat of the last Russian tsar, Nicholas II, but which is chiefly known for being the site of the 1945 Yalta Conference between the Big Three: Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin. (B, L, D)

Sunday, August 10 **SEVASTOPOL | BAKHCHYSARAY | CHERSONESOS | SEVASTOPOL**

Sevastopol is perhaps Crimea's most elegant city. Founded in the 18th century near the ancient Greek city of Chersonesos, Sevastopol was devastated during the Crimean War (1854-55), and again in 1942 when it fell to the Germans after a 250-day siege. Drive in the morning to Bakhchysaray, once the capital of the Crimean Tatars, to tour the 16th-century Khan's Palace, an elaborate cluster of rooms and courtyards with painted walls and intricate woodwork. In the afternoon, explore the remains of Chersonesos, founded by Greeks in the 5th century B.C., which became their largest trading settlement on the north coast of the Black Sea. (B, L, D)

Monday, August 11 **ODESSA**

In the morning, arrive in Odessa, the "Pearl of the Black Sea." In the 19th century, Odessa flourished when the Duke de Richelieu transformed it into a center of free trade, attracting Russian, Jewish, Greek and Italian settlers, among others. Explore Odessa's tree-lined streets with their stately mansions. See its principal landmarks, including the Baroque-style Opera House, the newly restored Archaeological Museum and the historic Potemkin Steps. In the afternoon, meet with local families in their homes. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, August 12 **VARNA, BULGARIA**

Explore Varna, founded in 580 B.C. as the ancient Greek trading colony Odessos. Visit the domed Cathedral of the Assumption, with its splendid iconostasis and bishop's throne, and the Archaeological Museum, with an astounding collection of the "Gold of Varna." (B, L, D)

Wednesday, August 13 **ISTANBUL, TURKEY | DISEMBARK | USA**

Arrive in Istanbul in the morning. Disembark and transfer to the airport for return flights to the U.S. (B)

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

- 9-night cruise aboard the all-suite, 114-guest *Corinthian II*
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship, hosted by the captain
- All meals aboard ship, including house wine, beer and soft drinks with lunch and dinner
- Open bar aboard ship throughout the cruise
- Complete program of tours and excursions throughout the voyage
- Educational program of lectures and discussions by accompanying 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 and embarkation taxes
- Gratuities to porters, guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED: Airfare; visa and passport fees; luggage and trip cancellation 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

AIRFARE: Airfare is not included in the rates. Please call your preferred airline, travel agency or Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. (VWTI), the agency handling air arrangements for this program, for round-trip flights to Istanbul, Turkey. 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 (8420) handy for reference.

OPTIONAL TWO-NIGHT PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION IN ISTANBUL

August 1 - 4, 2008

(Please note you fly from the U.S. on Aug. 1.)

Set on the beautiful Bosphorus and overlooking the Golden Horn, Istanbul is a city where the traditions of East and West meet. The skyline is one of the world's loveliest, filled with palaces, the domes of Byzantine churches and the minarets and turrets of Ottoman mosques, among other historic buildings. This optional pre-cruise program includes transfers; two nights at the *Istanbul Hilton*, with breakfast; and tours of the city's main landmarks.

Rates: \$850 per person, double occupancy;
\$300 single supplement

CORINTHIAN

SPACIOUS SUITES

The deluxe *Corinthian II* is an all-suite yacht accommodating no more than 114 guests. 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 and feature beds that can be configured as two twin-size beds or one queen-size bed, a sitting area, satellite TV, CD/DVD player, mini-refrigerator, safe and a marble-appointed bathroom with fine toiletries. Guests staying in the spacious Penthouse Suites and Veranda Suites (400 and 300 square feet, respectively) will also enjoy a private balcony, private butler service, complimentary bottle of champagne on arrival and other exclusive in-suite amenities.

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.



The ideal combination of cruise-ship grandeur and small-ship intimacy

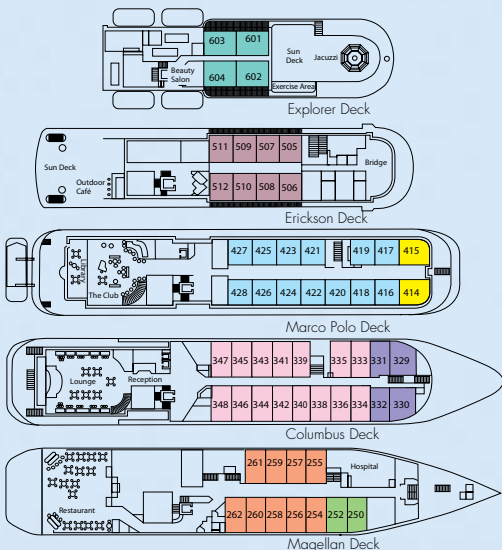
EFFORTLESS ELEGANCE EACH DAY AND NIGHT

Returning from excursions, enjoy complimentary refreshments, afternoon tea, and all-day coffee in The Club, a comfortable 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 with Internet access, beauty salon, exercise area, elevator serving all decks, and a wraparound sun deck with Jacuzzi. The 75 European officers and crew ensure an atmosphere akin to a private club for the length of your voyage.



Category B Suite

DECK PLAN



CRUISE AND LAND RATES | PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	RATE
E	Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 250 - 252	\$6,395
D	Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 225 sq. ft. Suites 329 - 332	\$7,195
C	Deluxe suites on Magellan Deck with portholes and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 254 - 262	\$8,295
B	Deluxe suites on Columbus Deck with window and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 333 - 348	\$9,395
A	Deluxe suites on Marco Polo Deck with window and sitting area. 235 sq. ft. Suites 416 - 428	\$10,295
AA	Deluxe suites on Marco Polo Deck with forward and side windows and sitting area. 285 sq. ft. Suites 414 - 415	\$10,795
VS	Deluxe Veranda Suites on Erickson Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 300 sq. ft. Suites 505 - 512	\$11,595
PHS	Deluxe Penthouse Suites on Explorer Deck with private balcony and sitting area. 400 sq. ft. Suites 601 - 604	\$12,995

VS & PHS SUITES ARE PROVIDED WITH PRIVATE BUTLER SERVICE AND OTHER EXCLUSIVE AMENITIES.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: A limited number of cabins have been designated for single travelers in Categories D - A at a supplement of \$2,995 to the per person, double occupancy rates. Singles in Categories AA - PHS are available at double the per person, double occupancy rates.





**ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION
of SMITH COLLEGE**

THE ALUMNAE HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON, MA 01063

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Travel Dynamics
Int'l

For further information about this travel program,
please contact Elizabeth Bigwood at the Alumnae House at
(800) 225-2029 or (413) 585-2029. SMCO 8420



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, 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. Smith Travel will send you insurance information on receipt of your 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 Travel Dynamics International and the tour's sponsoring organization. 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. Travel Dynamics International and the tour's sponsoring organization 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 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 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.

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.

SHIP'S REGISTRY: Malta CST #204 3599-40 TDI

ELIGIBILITY: This trip is designed for alumnae of Smith College and accompanying members of their immediate families. Space permitting, participating alumnae may bring a non-alumnae friend or couple.

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

SMCO 8420

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for \$_____ (\$1,000 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on *Voyage to the Black Sea*. 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 your registration coupon to:

Smith Travel,
Alumnae Association of Smith College,
33 Elm Street, Northampton, MA 01063

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)

Please book me/us on the **Optional Pre-Cruise Extension in Istanbul, Turkey.**

DR./MR./MRS./MS. FIRST LAST

DR./MR./MRS./MS. FIRST LAST

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