



ANDANTE  
TRAVELS

ADVENTURES IN  
ARCHAEOLOGY

**SAVE** UP TO  
**£450**pp\*

SUMMER 2024 ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS  
STILL TIME TO BOOK FOR SUMMER 2024

# STILL TIME TO BOOK YOUR ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVENTURE THIS SUMMER

Spring is finally here and glorious sunny days are just around the corner, which means you need to act quickly if you want to get away on an archaeology tour this Summer.

Within these pages you'll find details of our tours departing this June, July and August, with great savings of up to £450 per person! Treat yourself to an inclusive Andante experience on one of our best-selling overseas tours to France, Spain, Turkey, Germany, Croatia or Armenia. Or stay closer to home with a tour experiencing the best in archaeology that Scotland and England have to offer. Our brand-new tour – **Orkney & the Ness of Brodgar** - is proving extremely popular, and this is the last chance to see the Ness site while excavation is still in progress.

Happy browsing!

*The Andante Travels Team*

## Get in touch with an expert

If you are interested in joining one of our tours and want to know more, please do give our Specialist Travel Executives a call today. They are ready to help with all of your questions.

01722 237 008

[andantetravels.co.uk](http://andantetravels.co.uk)

### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

We reserve the right to withdraw special offers at any time and they are not valid for any bookings on private groups, travel agent bookings or Study Days. The saving of £450pp is on our North East Turkey (p28) & Armenia & Georgia (p30) tours.

## Summer Saver Offer

SAVE UP TO £450pp\*

Enjoy a saving of up to £450 per person on selected tours departing in June, July and August 2024. Offer ends 31st May 2024.



## KEEPING IT SMALL

As a small 'in house' team we are able to exercise personal control over the many aspects of our intricate tour arrangements. Thoughtful attention is given to the itinerary, from the places we stop for refreshments to the possible addition of a special site known only to archaeologists. And now with a maximum group size of 18, we can travel with more flexibility and enjoy more of those spontaneous encounters which are simply not available to travellers on a typical group tour of 40 or more.



To book a tour today visit [andantetravels.co.uk](http://andantetravels.co.uk) or call 01722 237 008



### OUTSTANDING VALUE WITH EVERYTHING INCLUDED

The price you pay for your Andante Travels tour represents excellent value for money. With most aspects of your tour included, from return flights and entry to all sites as per the itinerary, from tips to treats and – more often than not – wine with dinner, there is very little you will need to budget for on holiday except souvenirs and drinks at the bar.



### KNOWLEDGE YOU WON'T FIND ELSEWHERE

What makes an Andante Travels tour a cut above the rest? The simple answer is our expert Guide Lecturers. They are not just guest speakers who rely on local guides to point the way. Our outstanding team of engaging presenters will lead you through the sites you see, focusing on the detailed indicators of the past, explaining how things work and what a miracle of human ingenuity they represent. And they are your travelling companion, part of the group, there at all times to join in the laughter and chat, your expert on hand to converse with and put those all important questions to. Guests who travel with us frequently tell us that it is not only the high quality of guiding they receive but also the informality and easiness of travelling with an Andante lecturer which keeps them coming back.

£250 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From £3,420pp

Departing June

Activity Level ●●●○○

## East Anglia Wildlife & Archaeology

*From the Broads to Sutton Hoo*

With its long coastline and rivers draining into the North Sea, East Anglia was a kingdom particularly suited to maritime communication, and an almost island-like territory itself on England's east coast. Famous for its vast flatlands punctuated by the occasional spire or windmill, its sweeping views, long beaches and abundant wildlife, we discover some of the area's many delights from the watery Broads to the royal burial grounds at Sutton Hoo.

### Tour Highlights

- Explore Sutton Hoo, one of Britain's richest archaeological finds
- Discover the unique flora and fauna of Europe's most important wetlands
- Investigate Binham Priory, a hidden gem in a quiet corner of North Norfolk

*"Fantastic. We were blessed with our guide Oliver Gilkes who was knowledgeable and imparted so much of the history and archaeology of the area and was knowledgeable about so many other areas. We were equally blessed with our tour manager... She was fantastic. They were both great fun to be around. I had a ball!"*

Guest, June 2023

### Day One | Norwich

We meet at our hotel in Norwich before an introductory talk and dinner together as a group.

### Day Two | Norwich

Today we explore **Norwich**, once one of the wealthiest provincial medieval cities outside of London. We will visit the Cathedral, a magnificent Norman structure which has dominated the Norwich skyline for the last 900 years and its equally solid Castle which now incorporates the city museum.

### Day Three | Blakeney Point

Today we visit to **Blakeney Point**, a sand and shingle spit with dunes, salt marshes and tidal mudflats. Designated a Site of Scientific Interest, well known for its thriving seal colonies and abundant bird life, there is plenty of wildlife to see all year round. In the afternoon we will visit **Binham Priory**, once a wealthy Benedictine monastery.

Image: Binham Priory

### Day Four | Hickling Broad & Caistor on Sea

A day in the **Norfolk Broads**. We will visit Hickling Broad nature reserve which supports a high percentage of the UK's population of common crane as well as numbers of bittern, barn owls, red deer and otters. This afternoon we head south to Caistor on Sea to visit a 2nd Century Roman fort, and its replacement at Burgh Castle.

### Day Five | Kings Lynn & Grimes Graves

We spend the morning in **Kings Lynn** having a walking tour of its historic centre and visit **Lynn Museum** to see "Sea henge". After an independent lunch we make our way to Grimes Graves, an area of chalky grassland dimpled with over 430 prehistoric flint mine pits. Later we head to Bury St. Edmunds for the remainder of our tour.



Images top to bottom: Hickling Broad & Turf Fen Windmill, Norfolk Broads

### Day Six | Bury St. Edmunds

We spend this morning exploring **Bury St. Edmunds**, including St. Edmundsbury Cathedral, the abbey gardens and St. Mary's Church. This afternoon we visit **West Stow** Anglo Saxon Village, to see its reconstructed buildings and its on site museum.

### Day Seven | Sutton Hoo

We spend the morning at the burial complex at **Sutton Hoo**, one of the most significant sites in English archaeology. We continue to the seaside town of **Aldeburgh**, inspiration for many artists and writers from Turner to Wilkie Collins.

### Day Eight | Bury St. Edmunds

Our tour ends and we make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Oliver Gilkes

Oliver is a freelance archaeologist with wide-ranging experience. Norfolk is his home county and he is intimately acquainted with the archaeology of this area.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	Sgl Supp.
17th – 24th Jun	<del>£3,670</del> £3,420	£640

Includes £250 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/aeaw](http://andantetravels.co.uk/aeaw)

To book a tour today visit [andantetravels.co.uk](http://andantetravels.co.uk) or call 01722 237 008

£100 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



3 DAYS

From £880pp

Departing June

Activity Level ●●●○

## Colchester – Capital of Britannia

*Britain's oldest town through the ages*

Colchester is filled with history. The first Roman capital of Britannia, it boasts some of the most important archaeological remains that survive from Roman Britain. Walking through the historic town, we find notable highlights that include the foundations of the massive temple of Claudius, the earliest Roman town walls, as well as truly exceptional mosaics.

### Tour Highlights

- An in-depth exploration of the historically unique city of Colchester, the backdrop of the Boudiccan revolt
- Explore the Roman Circus, the only one in Britain, alongside the Director of the Colchester Archaeological Trust
- Visit Colchester Castle, built on the foundation of the Temple of Claudius, and admire the museum's fine Iron Age artefacts

*"Excellent - a really well balanced selection of places to visit and things to see, the Guide Lecturer was extremely informative and enthusiastic and made the tour a real pleasure."*

Guest, June 2023

### Day One | Colchester

We gather in Colchester for the start of the tour, meeting at our hotel. Before dinner, our Guide Lecturer Peter Berridge will give a lecture on Colchester that will help set the scene.

### Day Two | Colchester

The day begins with a short walk to look at the Castle exterior walls, then onto the **Roman wall** in Priory Street then **St. Botolph's Priory**, an erstwhile Saxon church transformed into an Augustinian priory in the Norman period by a follower of Anselm of Bec. From there we make our way to **St Johns Abbey Gateway**, where we have special access to this former Benedictine abbey built in the Norman period using Roman *spolia*. We proceed to the **Roman Circus**, the only one of its kind in Britain, where we meet Philip Crummy, the Director of the Colchester Archaeological Trust who will speak to us about the excavations carried out here. After lunch at the Roman Circus we walk to the **Butt Road Roman Church** foundations then a visit to the **Balkerne Gate**, the 1st century AD gate which is the largest of its kind in Britain. In passing we will also note St. Mary's church which figured in a dramatic episode in the 1648 siege of the town and the immense Victorian water

tower, nicknamed 'Jumbo'. We then venture to the Firstsite art centre to see the **Berryfield Mosaic** once decorating the *triclinium* of a 3rd century AD *domus*, restored to its former glory near where it was found.

### Day Three | Colchester

We begin at **Castle Park**, where we venture to the so-called **Duncan's Gate**, one of the two surviving gates belonging to the Roman wall before exploring the foundations of some **Roman townhouses** and onto the remains of a **Roman theatre**. Then we begin our exploration of the

famous **Castle**. In this historic setting, Peter Berridge will give a talk on Roman Colchester, from its role as the first capital to Britannia to the Boudiccan revolt. We proceed to an exploration of the castle, built on the foundations of the **Temple of Claudius**, the focus of so much of British ire against the Roman presence in Camulodunum. We then tour **Colchester Museum** housed in the castle to see its fine iron age artefacts. After lunch, we visit the **Hollytrees museum** and the **Holy Trinity Church**. Our tour comes to an end at **Tymperleys Tea Rooms**, located in a stunning Tudor House. From here, we say our goodbyes.



### Guided by Peter Berridge

An archaeologist with an interest in a wide range of subjects, Peter has worked on excavations in the UK.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
21st - 23rd Jun	£980	£880 £210

**Includes £100 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/ascb](http://andantetravels.co.uk/ascb)

NEW FOR 2024



7 DAYS

From £2,695pp

Departing June

Activity Level ●●●●○

## Orkney & the Ness of Brodgar

*Last chance to see the Ness site while excavation is still in progress*

The Stones of Stennes, Ring of Brodgar, Maeshowe and Skara Brae make up the UNESCO listed 'Heart of Neolithic Orkney' sites, and they are an absolute must see for anyone interested in archaeology. If you want to see the Ness site while excavation is still in progress, this summer is your last chance. Join us on this tour this June which includes a guided visit led by Site Director, Nick Card and hear all about the latest finds.

### Tour Highlights

- Explore the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Maeshowe, Stones of Stennes and Skara Brae
- Visit the excavations at site of the Ness of Brodgar before they close at the end of the summer
- Sail across the Eynhallow Sound and enjoy a day on the Island of Rousay
- Discover the Churchill Barriers and Italian Chapel, poignant reminders of more recent history

### Day One | Kirkwall

We meet at our hotel in Kirkwall in time for dinner this evening

### Day Two | Ring of Brodgar & Italian Chapel

We start our explorations at the **Ring of Brodgar**, one of the most iconic sites in Orkney. Built around 2500-2000BC and covering an area of almost 8,500 square metres it is the third largest stone circle in the British Isles. We continue to the **Stones of Stennes**, the remains of a great stone circle which may be one of the earliest henge sites in Britain. From here we make the short trip to **Maeshowe**. A zenith in European prehistoric architecture and accomplishment, this chambered tomb has been a distinctive presence in the landscape for millennia. In the afternoon we drive south and cross Scapa Flow where 52 German warships were scuttled just one week before the Peace Treaty was signed ending WWI. We visit the **Italian Chapel** erected by Italian prisoners of war during WWII before returning to Kirkwall.

### Day Three | Skara Brae & Kirkwall

This morning we explore **Skara Brae**, the amazingly well-preserved Neolithic village occupied for over 600 years. On the southern shore of the Bay of Skail, buried for thousands of years beneath the sand, the stone buildings of Skara Brae were gradually exposed by storms until a sea wall was built to preserve them. Eight stone dwellings survive, and their interior fittings give a unique glimpse of life as it was in Neolithic Orkney. We

return to Kirkwall for lunch and in the afternoon we visit the **Bishop's Palace** built in the early 1100s. The builder may well have been Bishop William the Old, crusader and friend of Earl Rognvald, St. Magnus's nephew and patron of the new cathedral. Across the road we will also visit the **Earl's Palace** constructed around 1606 by Patrick, Earl of Orkney - one of Orkney's most notorious rulers.

### Day Four | Rousay

We travel to the **Island of Rousay** separated from mainland Orkney by Eynhallow Sound. We explore **Midhowe** chambered tomb, sealed 4,500 years ago containing the remains of 25 people. On to the much later Iron Age defensive structure of **Midhowe Broch** which stands on the rocky foreshore of Rousay between two inlets and consists of a circular tower with a very thick exterior wall. We end our day at the double chambered tomb of **Taversoe Tuick**.



Images top to bottom: Stromness & Puffins

### Day Five | Brough of Birsay & Gurness Broch

Today we explore the **Brough of Birsay**, a small island that can be reached on foot by causeway at low tide. Birsay has been settled continuously since Neolithic times and was once a centre of Viking power. The remains of a Norse settlement can be found at the top of the ramp leading onto the island as well as the ruins of a 12th century Romanesque church. We continue to **Gurness Broch** where we explore the remains of the 8-metre tower. Built between 200 and 100 BCE, the broch was a tall, easily defended tower surrounded by a series of small stone dwellings. In the afternoon we visit **Orkney Museum** and **St. Magnus' Cathedral**.

### Day Six | Stromness & Ness of Brodgar

This morning we drive to **Stromness** where we visit the small but excellent Museum. It contains finds from Skara Brae including a paint pot, containing ochre, a large number of bone and ivory beads and pins, and the unique carved whalebone figurine known as the **Skara Brae Buddo**. In the afternoon we will visit the **Ness of Brodgar** where for over two decades, archaeological excavations have uncovered an astonishing array of Neolithic structures including monumental buildings and hundreds of examples of prehistoric artwork. Here we will have a guided tour led by Nick Card, Director of the project.

### Day Seven | Kirkwall

Our tour ends today in Orkney.



### Guided by Dr Val Turner

Dr Val Turner has been Shetland's Regional Archaeologist since 1986. An expert in Prehistoric and Viking Field Systems, she loves surprising visitors with Shetland's wealth of archaeology and she has been guiding walks and tours in both Orkney and Shetland for over 20 years.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Special Access at the Ness of Brodgar & Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
21st - 27th Jun	£2,695	£340

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/aonb](http://andantetravels.co.uk/aonb)

£100 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



5 DAYS

From £1,490pp

Departing July

Activity Level ●●●●○

## Highlights of Shetland

Explore the UK's most northerly islands

Shetland has long been famous as a mecca for bird enthusiasts and its rich archaeological landscape overlooked. However, the lack of intensive modern farming means that the preservation of these sites and their landscapes is exceptional and there is much to explore here from ancient field boundaries to Iron Age villages; and from Viking longhouses to relics from two world wars.

### Tour Highlights

- Climb to the top of Mousa Broch, the tallest of this unique Iron Age structure, standing at 13 metres
- Discover Scatness, an extensive settlement site with prehistoric, Viking and Pictish remains, built and rebuilt over thousands of years
- Explore Jarlshof, constructed by Neolithic farmers c2400 BC and occupied, though not continuously, for over 4,000 years

### Day One | Lerwick

We meet at our hotel in Lerwick for a welcome lecture and dinner with the group.

### Day Two | Mousa Broch & Jarlshof

We start our exploration of Shetland's archaeology at **Mousa Broch**. The broch towers over the landscape at 13 metres tall and was originally built with two wooden floors accessed by stairways, which can still be climbed. Returning to the mainland we drive south to **Scatness**, an Iron Age broch and village occupied for around two millennia. The broch survives to nearly four metres in height and the surrounding houses are single walled with an upper storey. We end the day at **Jarlshof** on the headland overlooking the West Voe. There is evidence here of over 4,000 years of human history - Neolithic houses, a Bronze Age village, an Iron Age broch and more.

### Day Three | Unst

We take two short ferry crossings to reach Unst, Britain's most northerly inhabited island, where we discover the island's Viking heritage. A large number of Viking longhouses have been discovered (at least 60) – the greatest number found anywhere, including Scandinavia. We will visit one of the excavated sites at **Underhoull** where there is evidence of outhouses, annexes and drains which have been added to the longhouse during its development. We continue to Haroldswick to see the **Skidbladner**, replica ship, and reconstructed longhouse. In the afternoon

we drive towards Skaw to take in the view of the Muckle Flugga lighthouse perched on the northern tip of Unst. Before catching our return ferry, we visit **Muness Castle**, a late 16th century tower house destroyed by French pirates in 1627 and abandoned in the 18th century.

### Day Four | Shetland

Our day starts with **Stanydale Temple** on the West Mainland. Its origins date between 2500-2000 BCE but it appears to have still been occupied into the early Iron Age. Next, we drive to the **Scord of Brouster**, one of the earliest Neolithic farm

sites in Shetland. Later, we visit the award-winning Shetland Museum, which displays over 3,000 artefacts and end the day at **Clickhimin Iron Age Broch** and later wheelhouse outside of Lerwick.

### Day Five | Shetland

Today we make our independent onward journeys.



Images top to bottom: Iron Age house built upon a Bronze Age one at Jarlshof & Lerwick



### Guided by Peter Yeoman

Until recently, Peter was Head of Cultural Heritage and then Principal Heritage Researcher at Historic Scotland.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
12th - 16th Jul	<del>£1,590</del> £1,490	£210

Includes £100 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/ Ashe](http://andantetravels.co.uk/ Ashe)

£250 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



9 DAYS

From £3,420pp

Departing July

Activity Level ●●●●○

## Walking Hadrian's Wall

*Discover the archaeological remains at Vindolanda*

Crossing wild and beautiful terrain, the Hadrian's Wall footpath covers the shortest distance coast-to-coast across the country. On this holiday, we'll walk up to seven miles travelled per day, including hills and varied terrain – a wonderful way to chart the entire length of the frontier, following in the footsteps of the Romans. Pass forts, mile castles and fine museums as we make our way from west to east.

### Tour Highlights

- Walk along the largest unbroken section of Hadrian's Wall
- Delve deeper into the rich Roman history of this unique area
- Explore Birdoswald, where we will discover its fort and museum
- Walk this legendary route in the company of an expert guide, who knows both its stories and history inside and out

### Day One | Wetheral

We check in to our hotel. This evening we enjoy an introductory talk about the history of Hadrian's Wall – an engaging taster of what's to come.

### Day Two | Bowness-on-Solway & Tullie House Museum

This morning we drive to **Bowness-on-Solway** where our walk begins. We ramble along the shore of the Solway Firth toward **Burgh-by-Sands**. The day ends with a visit to the **Tullie House Museum** in Carlisle. (c 4.5 miles)

### Day Three | Birdoswald

We start at **Lanercost Priory**, built from stone taken from Hadrian's Wall, and then hike via **Haytongate**, **Hare Hill** and the **Banks Turret** to **Birdoswald**. Later, we explore Roman remains at Birdoswald fort. An auxiliary unit of Dacians (from modern Romania) formed the garrison. (c 5 miles)

### Day Four | Carvoran

We return to Birdoswald and begin walking towards **Thirlwell** along the longest unbroken section of Hadrian's Wall. After a short drive, we stop at **Carvoran** to explore the notable collections at the Roman Army Museum. We continue towards **Burnhead** to view the quarry. (c 6 miles)

### Day Five | Vindolanda

Our morning begins with a visit to **Vindolanda**, located in the heart of the Northumberland National Park. The earliest remains of the fort here pre-date Hadrian's Wall, and were first established

in approximately AD 85 – the timber huts from this era are now buried in the waterlogged soil. After lunch, we drive to **Steel Rigg**, a dramatic crag with views of the rugged countryside. We pick up our trail and make our way to **Housesteads Roman Fort** to finish the day, viewing the remains as well as the museum here. (c 3.5 miles)

### Day Six | Chesters

We lace up our boots and visit the mithraeum at **Carrawburgh**. It is thought that this elegant temple was built by Roman soldiers in around AD 200, as its three altars, dedicated to the bull-slaying god Mithras, were all inscribed from commanding officers. We stride out to **Chesters** on the bank of the North Tyne River where we are rewarded with a visit to the most complete Roman cavalry fort in the country, **Cilurnum**. The site, maintained by English Heritage, features an extensive collection of artefacts. (c 6 miles)



### Day Seven | Corbridge

This morning we drive out to **Heavenfield** and trek to **Port Gate**, the site of a fortified gateway controlling traffic along Dere Street, the Roman road that ran north to the Firth of Forth. Following lunch, a drive to Corbridge takes us to a once vibrant Roman town and major military depot. We view artefacts at the museum here and we then take a walk along the River Tyne to **Corbridge**, where we see the preserved Roman bridge abutment and reused Roman masonry in the Anglo-Saxon church. (c 5 miles)

### Day Eight | Benwell

Starting our tour at **Whittle Dene Reservoir** this morning, we wander to **Heddon-on-the-Wall**, where we see a well-preserved stretch of the wall. Later, we view the surviving wall that stretches around Denton, before continuing to the **Temple at Benwell**, dedicated to the local god Antenociticus. (c 4.5 miles)

### Day Nine | Segedunum

Our journey from coast to coast is almost at an end. The first stop today is at the **Great North Museum**, which was built for Northumbria's natural history collection in 1884. Next, we venture across to the seaside town of South Shields and visit **Arbeia Roman Fort**, once a large supply base. Our final destination is Wallsend, where we visit the site of **Segedunum**, the most completely excavated fort on Hadrian's Wall, which once housed troops from mainland North Europe.



### Guided by Tony Wilmott

Senior Archaeologist at Historic England. Tony has directed a number of excavations, among which include an impressive 23 seasons of work on the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and the ruined Whitby Abbey.



### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	Sgl Supp.
15th - 23rd Jul	<del>£3,670</del> £3,420	£685

**Includes £250 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/ahad](http://andantetravels.co.uk/ahad)



£200 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



6 DAYS

From £2,190pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Highlights of the Hebrides

*History and heritage on the edge of the Atlantic*

Home to a stunning array of archaeological sites, the Outer Hebrides are impressive all year round, but when the summer ends, the landscape really takes centre stage. Whilst the summer midges are gone, the island's wildlife is still active and, with a clear night's sky, there is even a chance of spotting the elusive aurora borealis.

### Tour Highlights

- View the Iron Age Village at Bosta, the best preserved village of its kind in the country
- Visit the Bronze Age Standing Stones of Callanish, the heart of religious rituals for 1,500 years
- Discover the highly decorated 16th century effigy tombs of the chiefs of the Macleod clan at the Rodel Church

### Day One | Lewis

Today we meet in Ullapool and take an early evening ferry to Stornoway. On our arrival, we will transfer to our hotel.

### Day Two | Lewis

This morning we visit the **Bosta Iron Age Village** and the **Standing Stones of Callanish**, the most important Bronze Age standing stones in the Western Isles. Later, we head to the **Butt of Lewis lighthouse** which stands on high cliffs at the very northmost point of the island, casting a light 20 miles into the wild North Atlantic.

### Day Three | Harris

We start the day with a visit to **Harris**, whose mountainous environment is so different from Lewis'. Here we visit **St. Clement's Church** at Rodel, built in the late 15th century for the MacLeods of Harris, including Alasdair Crotach MacLeod who has one of the finest wall tombs in Scotland. We continue with a visit to the **Genealogy Centre** at Northton, which explores the factors which contributed to the development of the various island communities in the Hebrides. We conclude the day with a visit to the **Clach Mhic Leoid**, or MacLeod's Stone, a 10 foot tall standing stone overlooking Harris' stunning north western shore.

### Day Four | Lewis

The day begins with a visit to the **Blackhouses at Gearannan and Arnol**, typical crofting settlements found until recently in the Western Isles, which housed humans and livestock alike.

We then proceed to **Lewis Castle** where we will explore the home of the famous Lewis Chessmen, the iconic 12th century chess pieces carved from walrus bone.

### Day Five | Lewis

The day begins with an exploration of **Carloway Broch**, a remarkably well preserved 1st century AD fortification which was reused in the 17th century as a stronghold under the Morrisons of Ness. We continue to **Clach an Trushal**, an imposing 6 metre tall standing stone and then the mysterious site



Images top to bottom: Lewis Castle in Stornoway & St Clements Church, Rodel

of **Steinacleit**, a possible prehistoric farmstead, revealed by peat cutting in the 1920s. After this, we explore the **Norse Mill at Shawbost**, a reconstruction of an Iron Age mill powered by a local stream flowing out of Loch Roinavat, which gives us an interesting glimpse into Lewis' Scandinavian past. Lastly, we visit **St. Columba's Ui church**, the most intact medieval structure on Lewis.

### Day Six | Lewis - Stornoway - Ullapool

We return by ferry from Stornoway to Ullapool.



### Guided by Peter Yeoman

Until recently, Peter was Head of Cultural Heritage and then Principal Heritage Researcher at Historic Scotland.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
27th Sep- 2nd Oct	£2,390	£2,190
		£350

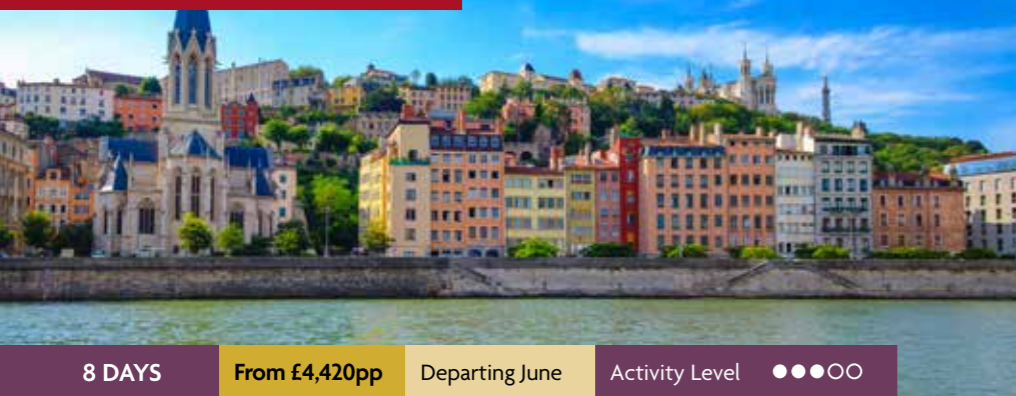
**Includes £200 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/aheb](http://andantetravels.co.uk/aheb)

Image: The Standing Stones of Callanish and Stornoway

NEW FOR 2024

£300 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From £4,420pp

Departing June

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Romans & Gauls

*From Alesia to Lugdunum*

Join us in Burgundy, the gorgeous French region served by the conjoining Rhône and Saône. This is a region where two great French passions collide - wine and food. Aside from its gastronomic pedigree, however, amidst its mustard field-dotted rolling green hills, we find cobbled Medieval streets, glorious Gallo-Roman and Celtic antiquity, and some of the most important Western churches and monasteries of the Middle Ages.

### Tour Highlights

- Discover the hidden gems of Autun and Vienne including the best-preserved Roman temple in France
- View the wonderful collections of the Musée Gallo Roman in Lyon
- Gain new understanding of one of Rome's formidable adversaries, the Gauls

### Day One | London - Lyon - Dijon

We fly to Lyon and transfer to our hotel in Dijon.

### Day Two | Châtillon-sur-Seine & Alésia

This morning we visit the **Musée du Pays Châtillonnais** in the pretty town of Châtillon-sur-Seine. Its collections cover the entire history of the region and include the astonishing **Vix krater**, a 6th century BC Greek bronze vessel discovered at the burial mound nearby. We continue to Alésia, the battle site of Caesar's final Gallic victory, and its museum. We also view the **Vercingetorix statue** and then on to the **Muséopark Museum** and reconstructions.

### Day Three | Autun & Bibracte

We travel to **Autun** in the Saône Valley in the hill country of the Morvans. Autun was one of the wealthiest towns in Roman Gaul and we will visit the **impressive** theatre, town walls and gates, together with fascinating remains of a large Romano-Celtic temple. We continue to Bibracte in the afternoon. One of the largest and most important hillforts of Gaul and site of Caesar's defeat at the hands of the Helvetii tribe the climax of his first campaign in Gaul.

### Day Four | Dijon & Nuits-St-George

We begin the day at **Dijon Museum**, housed in the former abbey of Sainte Bénigne. Here we see the display of wooden Gallo-Roman statues found at Sources-de-la-Seine, a sanctuary associated with healing cult. the parts of the human or animal

Leaving the city, we travel through the Burgundy vineyards, with a spot of wine tasting on the way, to **Nuits-St-Georges**. Here, we visit the Roman town and temple site and the museum.

### Day Five | Dijon - Lyon

We travel south to Lyon today stopping on the way at **Chalon-sur-Saône**. Once a busy Roman port, we visit the **Musée Denon** with its finds recovered from the River Saône. Next we visit the small town of **Cluny**, where, in the 10th century, monastic reform developed and took wing, extending throughout Europe. We visit the impressive remains of the **Abbey**.

### Day Six | Lyon

Today is dedicated to **Lyon**. Here we discover the capital of the Three Gauls (Gallia Celtica, Belgica,



Images top to bottom: Fourviere & Lyon

and Aquitania) in the **Gallo-Roman Museum**, and the adjacent theatre and odeon. The afternoon is spent exploring the aqueducts of the city, unique in the western Roman Empire for their complexity and engineering.

### Day Seven | Vienne & St. Romain-en-Gal

We spend the morning in Vienne, visiting the near complete **Temple of Augustus and Livia**, the theatre and other remains of this wealthy Roman town on the banks of the river Rhône. In the afternoon, we cross the river to St. Romain-en-Gal, a suburb that now has a rich display of houses and mosaics on display in situ and in the new **Gallo-Roman museum**.

### Day Eight | Lyon - London

We transfer to the airport for our return flight.



### Guided by Prof. Tony King

Lecturer in archaeology at the University of Winchester, Tony has excavated both in Britain and abroad and is a specialist in Roman archaeology.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes and local guide services as required

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
11th - 18th Jun	<del>£4,720</del> £4,420	£590

**Includes £300 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/ars](http://andantetravels.co.uk/ars)

£250 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From £3,440pp

Departing June

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Rock Art of Altamira

*A close encounter with our Stone Age antecedents*

Decorated 35-15,000 years ago, the caves of Altamira still display some of humankind's first great artistic achievements. This is a unique chance to view the vivid images of horse, bison and deer that have come to epitomise Palaeolithic art. A visit to this area's Ice Age caves is a genuine privilege. Where else can you gaze upon masterpieces of such antiquity in situ?

### Tour Highlights

- Examine the contrast between ancient art seen in the caves themselves and the modern art on display at the renowned Guggenheim in vibrant Bilbao
- Visit the spectacular cave at Tito Bustillo and stand before its awe-inspiring images, which are both painted and engraved
- Pay a memorable visit to the celebrated Altamira Cave facsimile, widely regarded as the Sistine Chapel of cave art

*"Clear explanations, enthusiastic with a good sense of humour & lots of interesting stories to tell. Enjoyable set lectures over 3 evenings - highly informative with humorous aspects too (especially the cartoons)."*

Guest, June 2023

### Day One | London - Bilbao

We fly to Bilbao and travel to our hotel.

### Day Two | Ekainberri - Bilbao

This morning we drive out to see the facsimile of the painted cave discovered in 1969 at **Ekain** in the Basque country, home to some of the most realistic colourful depictions of horse and bison. We leave the prehistoric era behind at the **Guggenheim Museum** in Bilbao. Note the stark contrast between ancient and modern art.

### Day Three | Covalanas - El Pendo

A scenic drive through the mountains brings us to the small cave of **Covalanas**, decorated with deer that are drawn entirely in red dotted outlines. After lunch, we visit the cave of **El Pendo**, which contains a panel of painted animals 8.8 metres in length. Interestingly, portable art made from bone and antler was also found here in tremendous quantities.

### Day Four | Altamira - El Pindal

The famous site of **Altamira** awaits, where we see the superb facsimile of the cave and the museum. Continue along the coast to **El Pindal**,

a cave set into the cliffs above the sea – one of the most beautiful and spectacular locations of all the decorated caves. Here, we find a series of geometric signs and a variety of animal figures, including bison, deer, a fish, and also an unusual painting of a mammoth.

### Day Five | Las Monedas - El Castillo

Travel to the south of **Santillana del Mar**, the site of several decorated caves, two of which we will visit. Firstly, we explore **Las Monedas**, a large, labyrinthine cave in which bear bones were also found. The art here is extremely homogeneous and it is considered likely that it was produced by



Images top to bottom: Guggenheim Bilbao & Santillana del Mar

just one person. The art at our second visit – the cave of **El Castillo** – clearly belongs to a number of different phases and recently produced some of the earliest dates for cave art in the world – more than 40,000 years. There are hundreds of animal figures and 50 red hand stencils to be observed here.

This afternoon, there is time to explore the town of Santillana del Mar.

### Day Six | La Loja - Tito Bustillo

We head west into the mountainous region of Asturias to **La Loja** – a cave with some fine engravings, which stand out clearly in white against the dark rock. This afternoon, we see the cave of **Tito Bustillo**, which was discovered in 1968. The cave is famed for its frieze of horses and reindeer.

### Day Seven | Candamo - Teverga

We visit **Candamo**, where the most famous engraving is a big stag turning its head, pierced by many spears. We also view many other fine figures, some in surprising locations. Our final visit of the tour is to the prehistoric park at **Teverga**, where we are treated to a superb final overview of the caves and their myriad discoveries.

### Day Eight | Bilbao - London

We return to the airport today and we catch our flight back to London.

*Cave visits may vary according to seasonal opening hours.*



### Guided by Dr Paul Bahn

The world's leading archaeologist on prehistoric rock art, Paul is one of our best-known Guide Lecturers.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes and local guide services as required

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
15th - 22nd Jun	£3,690	£3,440 £595

**Includes £250 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/aalt](http://andantetravels.co.uk/aalt)

Image: Palaeolithic Bison art in the Altamira caves

## NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

There are a limited number of spaces with no single supplement to pay

## £300 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From £4,180pp

Departing July

Activity Level ●●●○

# The Wealth & Wonders of the Hanseatic Cities

*Explore this fascinating period in history*

This cruise down the Elbe takes you to the heart of the Hanseatic League, that confederation of Northern cities which dominated maritime trade in the North and Baltic seas in the medieval period. From the 12th to the 15th centuries, the League became very powerful and prosperous.

### Tour Highlights

- Enjoy three days exploring the delights of Berlin, from its medieval roots to its modern brilliance
- Explore the charms of Lueneburg with its preserved medieval industrial centre and cobblestone squares
- Visit Luebeck, the Queen of the Hanseatic city, with its well-preserved medieval city centre, including priceless brick Gothic buildings, such as St. Mary's Church

### Day One | London - Berlin

After arriving in Berlin, we transfer to our hotel.

### Day Two | Berlin

This morning we wake in Berlin, ready to examine its Hanseatic history. We start at the **Church of St. Nikolai**, the first church built in Berlin, located in the evocative **Nicholas Quarter**, which houses a series of restored medieval buildings. We continue to the 13th century **Franciscan Monastery**, whose ruins make its brick gothic architecture even more evocative. This evening we join our ship and prepare to embark on our cruise.

### Day Three | Berlin - Nedlitz

Having established itself as a vibrant 'new town', Berlin continued to grow in influence from the 15th century onwards. Under the rule of the Hohenzollern, it grew to European and then world city. **Exclusive Andante excursion:** We set the scene by exploring Berlin's highlight sites from the outside, starting at the site of the newly rebuilt town palace, once the royal palace of the Hohenzollern from the 15th to 20th centuries, to the Brandenburg Gate, taking in the Opera House and Humboldt University on the way. In the afternoon we visit the inimitable **Sanssouci Palace**, the rococo summer dwelling built in order to provide Frederick the Great with an escape from the demands of court life.

### Day Four | Brandenburg - Magdeburg

We spend the morning cruising down the Elbe,

which has always been navigable by commercial vessels and which, therefore allowed Hanseatic cities to be linked. After lunch on board we land in Hohenwarthe from where we depart on our afternoon excursion. In the evening we cruise towards Wolfsburg. **Exclusive Andante excursion:** Magdeburg, badly damaged during the Second World War, has a core of medieval buildings which bring its Hanseatic history to life. We continue to the **Buttergasse**, a vaulted cellar that lies in the heart of the Alter Markt, which we view from the outside. We visit the **Monastery of Our Lady**, founded in the 11th century, which remains one of the city's best preserved Romanesque buildings.

### Day Five | Wolfsburg - Lueneburg

We arrive at Wolfburg this morning and depart soon thereafter to make the most of our visit. In the afternoon we cruise towards Luneberg, where we dock for the night. **Exclusive Andante excursion:** We drive a short distance to Braunschweig, today an important centre for research and development and once an important member of the Hanseatic league. We start with a view of the Burgplatz, and we also see the Dankwarderode Castle, once the home of the Dukes of Braunschweig, as well as the Cathedral of St. Blaise and John the Baptist, built in the 12th century by Henry the Lion and the burial place of Caroline of Brunswick, wife of George IV. We end our tour in Braunschweig with a visit of the Altstadtmarkt, which houses the Gewandhaus, guild house of the tailors.

### Day Six | Lueneburg - Hamburg

We awake in Lueneburg and later cruise towards Hamburg, where we dock for the night.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** This morning we explore Lueneburg. One of the few cities in the area not damaged in the Second World War, it preserves much of its medieval charm. We start the tour with the Alter Kran, the 14th century crane over the river harbour, which helped to transport salt to Luebeck. From there we walk to the Stintmarkt, the medieval fish market and then to the Am Sande Markt, a medieval market home to St. John's Church, the city's oldest. In the afternoon we visit Hamburg Museum, housed in the **Hamburg Castle**, which recounts the city's rise to power in the time of the Hanseatic League.

### Day Seven | Hamburg

Today we wake up in Hamburg, one of the largest and most important cities in Germany.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** We spend the whole day in Luebeck, starting with the **Museum of the Hanse**, the most significant of its kind and housed in a Dominican friary. After lunch, we explore the World Heritage city on foot, visiting the twin-towered 15th century Burgtor and continuing to the Heiligen-Geist-Hospital, before exploring the 13th century Marienkirche. We end the day at the Holstentor.

### Day Eight | Hamburg - London

This morning we disembark our ship and make our way back to the UK.



### Guided by Nick Jackson

A graduate of the Institute of Archaeology at UCL, Nick is an archaeologist and historian with over 20 years of experience.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel and ship accommodation, and meals
- At hotel: water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- MS Elbe Princesse: welcome cocktail and all on board drinks\*, served in the restaurant and in the bar to include tea, coffee, soft drinks, beers and a selection of wines, cocktails and long drinks
- \*Premium branded drinks at own cost
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes and local guide services as required

*Please note that the itinerary can be subject to change before the cruise departs or during the cruise depending on adjusted sailing times and/or any port restrictions.*

### Dates & prices per person

24th - 31st July Twin/Dbl Share Sgl Supp.

Main Deck Outside Cabin with a high opening window ~~£4,480~~ £4,180 £0

Upper Deck Outside Cabin with a French balcony and sliding windows ~~£4,730~~ £4,257 £707

**NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT ON MAIN DECK CABINS**

**Includes £300 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/ahac](http://andantetravels.co.uk/ahac)

£200 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



5 DAYS

From £2,420pp

Departing August

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Berlin - Beyond the Wall

*The highs and lows of a city divided and reunited*

Enjoy the rich flavour of the region's past and present, from its royal Prussian palaces to its place in Nazi fantasies, and explore its role as a hub of both socialist cultures and radical counter cultures. Berlin has been the nexus for so many pivotal moments in European history and its stories are simply fascinating. Join our expert Guide Lecturer on visits to the city's most significant and historic sites and museums.

### Tour Highlights

- Explore the city with a long-term resident and experienced archaeologist
- Pay a visit to Sanssouci, Frederick the Great's Rococo summer palace
- See Berlin's iconic sites, including as the Reichstag, the Brandenburg Gate and Checkpoint Charlie
- World-class museums await discovery, which are home to amazing artefacts from the ancient world

### Day One | London - Berlin

We fly to Berlin from London. In the evening we take a stroll through the heart of Berlin to explore the Prussian city shaped in large part by Frederick the Great. We take in the **Opera House**, **Humboldt University** – founded by Frederick William III in the 19th century – and the **Memorial at Bebelplatz**.

### Day Two | Berlin

We spend the morning at **Museum Island**, the cultural heart of imperial Berlin where we explore innumerable treasures, including the reconstruction of the **Ishtar Gate** and the Babylonian Processional Way at the **Pergamon Museum**, as well as the famous bust of Nefertiti at the **Neues Museum**. After lunch we visit the **Jewish Quarter**, where we see memorials such as the Stumbling Stones and Deserted Room. The remainder of our afternoon is free to explore at leisure.

### Day Three | Berlin - Cecilienhof

We spend the day in Potsdam and visit **Sanssouci**, Frederick the Great's Rococo private residence that was built in the mid 18th century. We proceed to **Cecilienhof**, a very different royal palace built by the Hohenzollern during World War I, ironically in the form of an English Tudor manor house.

### Day Four | Berlin - Wittenberg

We journey to Wittenberg today to visit a number of World Heritage Sites associated with Luther, including the **Lutherhaus** – originally part of the University of Wittenberg, it became Martin

Luther's residence and is where he wrote his 95 theses. We also visit the Castle Church, or rather **All Saints' Church**, where he allegedly nailed his 95 theses to the door and where he is buried. In this town steeped in the reformation, we visit the houses of other figures important to the movement, such as Melanchthon and the painter Cranach.

### Day Five | Berlin - London

This morning we explore Berlin's famous sites, including the **Reichstag**. Its glass dome, designed by Norman Foster, has transformed the building

into a symbol of German unity as well as civic transparency. We also visit **Brandenburg Gate**, modelled on the Propylaeum of the Athenian Acropolis and one of the most iconic sites in Berlin. We complete the morning with a visit to **'Checkpoint Charlie'**, the infamous crossing point between East and West so redolent of the city's Cold War period. Our tour will end this afternoon and we transfer to the airport, where we catch our return flight back to London.



### Guided by Nick Jackson

Nick is an archaeologist with wide-ranging excavation experience. He has lived and worked in Berlin for over 20 years and has an in-depth knowledge of his home city.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
22nd - 26th Aug	<del>£2,620</del> £2,420	£210

**Includes £200 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/asbb](http://andantetravels.co.uk/asbb)



Images top to bottom: Berlin & Inside the Pergamon Museum

NEW FOR 2024

£200 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



5 DAYS

From £2,340pp

Departing August

Activity Level ●●●○○

## The Archaeology of Roman Istria

*Exploring idyllic Croatia*

The idyllic peninsula of Istria, with its staggeringly beautiful coastline, has a rich history linking it to the Veneti and is now famed for its wonderful ancient ruins as well as its beautiful Venetian cities. This tour brings different layers of history to life, exploring the sites in the comfort of one hotel based in the gorgeous Poreč.

### Tour Highlights

- View the Roman ruins in the elegant city of Trieste, including a stunning theatre and the remains of a forum
- Visit Pula with its staggering collection of Roman ruins, including its impressive amphitheatre and stunning Temple of Augustus
- Explore the beautifully located archaeological park of Vizula, which contains the remains of an opulent Roman luxury villa

### Day One | London - Pula

We depart from London and arrive at our hotel in Pula.

### Day Two | Pula & Vizula

This morning we explore the wonderful remains of **Pula**, which offer precious testimony to the Roman presence and influence in Istria. Most prominent among these is the stunning **amphitheatre**, which preserves the underground service rooms, as well as the four outer towers, which contained water for the sparsiones sprinkled on the spectators during performances. We proceed to the **Roman forum** where we see the **Temple of Augustus**, one of the best-preserved Roman temples outside of the Italian peninsula. Nearby is the Gate of Hercules, recognisable from the high relief sculpture of the hero's bearded head, together with his club and also the well-preserved Roman theatre, built into the hillside on which the castle now sits. We take a short drive to the village of Medulin for lunch after which we head to **Vizula Archaeological Park**. Evidence shows habitation here from the Neolithic period onwards. One of the most striking sites is an Imperial villa. We round off the day at **Nesactium** whose Roman remains were built upon the original Histrian town destroyed by the Romans in 177 B.C.

### Day Three | Monkodonja - Poreč - Trieste

This morning we drive to the Bronze Age hill fort at **Monkodonja**. It was discovered in 1953 and has given much evidence of the lives led there. It was

inhabited and not merely a defensive refuge, with the Acropolis itself having residential buildings and streets. We continue to lovely town of **Poreč**, situated on the western side of the Istrian peninsula. We start at **Marafor Square**, site of the Roman forum. There are remains still visible of some of the Roman temples, as well as paving from the forum itself. We note the **Romanesque House**, erected in the 13th century, as well as the **Kanonika**, which still has its original stone portal. Here we see the pediment of the Temple of Neptune, once the largest in Istria. We make our way to beautiful **Euphrasian Basilica** in a complex that includes baptistery and bell tower. This UNESCO listed building is a particularly good example of Byzantine architecture. Inside, the eye is caught by the staggering mosaics in this complex; the oratory



Images top to bottom: Vodnjan & San Giusto cathedral

retains a mosaic floor that belonged to the domus.

### Day Four | Trieste

Today is dedicated to exploring **Trieste**, the capital of Friuli, which is on the border with Slovenia, and which was shaped by centuries of Habsburg rule when it was one of Europe's most important ports and the bridge between central and southern Europe. Walking along the city's elegant avenues, we explore the archaeological remains of the city which was a military camp. We start with the **Paleochristian Basilica** first discovered in the 19th century and which is notable for its 4th and 6th century mosaics which are reminiscent of those found in the Euphrasian Basilica, including those which record the names of donors who paid for the floor. We continue to the **Cattedrale di San Giusto**, built between the 9th and 11th centuries on top of an early Christian church and a Roman temple and notable for its Venetian apsidal mosaics. Just outside the cathedral, we explore the remains of the **Roman forum**. The afternoon is spent exploring more Roman remains, including the Arco di Riccardo which monumentalised the entrance to the Cardo, and the well-preserved Roman theatre.

### Day Five | Trieste - Pula - London

Before we make our journey to Pula Airport, we drive to the pretty town of **Vodnjan** for a guided walk of its architecture which shows its Venetian heritage. After lunch, we continue to the airport where we catch our return flights to London.



**Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall**  
An Honorary Research Fellow for the Open University, Eireann is bilingual and she has led many Andante tours.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes and local guide services as required

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
28th Aug - 1st Sep	£2,540	£2,340 £295

**Includes £200 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/aris](http://andantetravels.co.uk/aris)

50% OFF SINGLE SUPPLEMENT PLACES

£450 SUMMER SAVER DISCOUNT



11 DAYS

From £6,140pp

Departing July

Activity Level ●●●○○

## North East Turkey

*From the Black Sea to Lake Van*

Join us on a beautiful journey into a part of Turkey seldom penetrated by mainstream tourism. Travelling through dramatic landscapes between the Black Sea and Lake Van, we explore the Kingdom of the Urartu which, for around 3 centuries, rivalled the mighty Assyrian Empire to the south.

### Tour Highlights

- Learn more about the history of these little-visited parts of Turkey in the company of an expert
- Explore the remote kingdom of Urartu and the ruined medieval Armenian city of Ani
- Discover the Greek Orthodox Sumela Monastery, which is built into the side of a sheer cliff in a remote mountain valley
- Admire spectacular scenery - a tour to this part of the world is picturesque and surprising in equal parts

### Day One | London - Istanbul - Trabzon

We fly from London via Istanbul to **Trabzon**.

### Day Two | Trabzon

Today, we tour **Trabzon** visiting a few churches from this era, including those of **St. Eugenius** and **Panayia Chrysokephalos**. Both were turned into mosques after the Ottoman conquest in 1461, and we'll see other remnants of the Ottoman period including the **Zagnos Bridge** and **Gülbahar Mosque**. In the afternoon we visit the city's key site, the 13th century **Church of Hagia Sophia**, with its unusual late-Byzantine relief carvings on the exterior and marvellous frescos in the narthex.

### Day Three | Trabzon - Erzurum

This morning we head north into the foothills of the Pontic Alps to visit the **Sumela Monastery**. Spectacularly built into a sheer cliff overlooking a tumbling mountain stream and verdant forest, it dates from the 6th century and boasts some fine frescos. We then drive over the dramatic **Zigana Pass** and follow the old Silk Road to **Erzurum**, the highest city in the country. We walk around the historic city of Erzurum, visiting several atmospheric buildings left by the Saltukid and other Islamic dynasties.

### Day Four | Erzurum - Kars

The journey east from Erzurum to **Kars** is beautiful. En-route we pause to view the impressive 13th century **Çobandede Bridge** spanning the Aras (ancient Araxes) river. After lunch in the atmospheric frontier town of Kars we head even

further east to the border with the modern Republic of Armenia. Here lies the medieval 'ghost' town of **Ani**, a once powerful, church-filled settlement astride a branch of the Silk Route and today a UNESCO World Heritage site. We admire the frescos within the **Church of St. Gregory the Illuminator**, the massive cathedral and small but exquisite rotunda church of **St. Gregory Abighamrets**, before returning to Kars.

### Day Five | Kars - Doğubayazıt

This morning we explore the sites of **Kars**. These include the impressive crag-top citadel, scene of a famous siege in the Crimean War, the 10th century **Armenian Church of the Holy Apostles** (now a mosque) and some fine late 19th century stone-built houses and administrative buildings dating back to the Russian occupation of 1878-1917. We then drive south along the frontier with Armenia, over the flank of biblical Mt Ararat, to **Doğubayazıt**. Our main focus here is the romantic 17th century **Ishak Pasha Palace**, a wonderfully ornate and architecturally intricate palace dramatically situated on a limestone ridge with superb views over the Ararat Plain below.

### Day Six | Doğubayazıt - Tatvan

We drive over the near 10,000 feet high **Tendurek Pass**, past frozen lava flows, and get our first tantalising glimpses of **Lake Van**. Navigating the northern shore of the lake, we pass beneath towering Mount Suphan to the medieval city

of **Ahlat**, famed for its monumental tombs and elaborately carved gravestones.

### Day Seven | Nemrut Dag & Por

Today we visit **Nemrut Dag** (Mt Nemrut), located on the southwest shores of Lake Van. After lunch we drive south to the former caravan town of **Bitlis**, then continue to **Por** where we visit a Kurdish village.

### Day Eight | Tatvan - Van

We depart Tatvan for **Van**, following the beautiful southern shores of Lake Van. A 20-minute boat ride off shore is the spectacular island of **Akdamar**, home to the small but delightful tenth-century Armenian Church of the Holy Cross. We continue to the city of Van and visit the impressive **Van Archaeological Museum**.

### Day Nine | Van & Ayanis

Today we explore the mighty **Rock of Van**, a natural limestone outcrop topped by Urartian and later-era fortifications and other structures. In the afternoon, we head north to the **Urartian fortress of Ayanis**, perched on the shore of the lake.

### Day Ten | Hosap & Çavuştepe

We drive south to visit the fairy tale fortress of **Hosap**, which was built by a Kurdish chieftan in the 17th century. Our final visit today will be to the fortified-palace of **Çavuştepe**.

### Day Eleven | Van - Istanbul - London

We fly back to London from Van, via Istanbul.



### Guided by Terry Richardson

Terry Richardson has a university background in ancient history and classical civilisation. Terry is the author of numerous renowned guide books on the country, including Rough Guide Istanbul, Pocket Rough Guide Istanbul and Rough Guide Turkey.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes and local guide services as required

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
7th - 17th Jul	£6,590 £6,140	£995 £497

**Includes £450 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

For full details of this tour visit [andantetravels.co.uk/ Janet](http://andantetravels.co.uk/ Janet)



15 DAYS

From £6,100pp

Departing June

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Armenia & Georgia

*Explore the site of Nokalakevi with Ian Colvin*

Between Europe and Asia, the Caspian and the Black Sea, and on the ancient Silk Roads and the Scythian invasion routes stand the republics — ancient kingdoms — of Armenia and Georgia. Their location between great civilisations guaranteed them a pivotal role in world history. Yet, their varied landscapes are reason enough to visit.

### Tour Highlights

- See exquisite metalwork and jewellery from the Bronze Age
- Discover the captivating history that created both Tbilisi's and Yerevan's urban centres
- Enjoy the country's dramatic landscapes, from its lush sub-tropics to the semi-desert steppes
- Learn about the ancient Georgian wine-making tradition, which involves fermenting grapes in earthenware and has now been recognised by UNESCO

### Day One | London - Yerevan

We fly to Yerevan and transfer to our hotel.

### Day Two | Yerevan

This morning we visit the **Mother Cathedral of Echmiadzin** and the striking ruins of **Zvartnots**. This afternoon, we pay a visit to the **Mesrop Mashtots Institute of Manuscripts** and its **Matenadaran Museum**, which commemorates the creation of the Armenian alphabet.

### Day Three | Yerevan

Today we drive east into the Gegham mountains to visit the World Heritage Site of **Geghard**. Nearby, perched above the gorge of the Azat, stands the fortress and summer palace of **Garni** with its Graeco-Roman temple. In the afternoon, we explore **Yerevan's History Museum**.

### Day Four | Yerevan

We begin at **Shengavit**, a settlement that spans the Chalcolithic to the Bronze Age. We continue to the museum and fortress of **Erebuni**, the ancient Urartian capital in the Araxes valley in the first half of the 1st millennium BC. This afternoon we have free time to explore Yerevan at our own leisure.

### Day Five | Yerevan - Dilijan

This morning we travel towards Ararat. Beneath the mountain stands the monastery of **Khor Virap**. Further south we visit **Areni Cave**, a fascinating archaeological site. We have lunch at the medieval monastery of **Noravank**, an architectural gem in a stunning valley setting.

### Day Six | Dilijan - Tbilisi

Today we visit some of Armenia's finest and best preserved monastic complexes. The 10th-13th century **Haghartsin** and we then travel to the impressive 12th-13th century **Goshavank** monastery in the scenic village of Gosh.

### Day Seven | Tbilisi

This morning we start with a walking tour of **Old Tbilisi**, taking in the **Metekhi Church**, the **Narikala Fortress**, the **Baths district**, the **Great Synagogue**, the **Sioni Cathedral**, and the 6th century **Anchiskhati Basilica**. After lunch, we visit the **Georgian National Museum** with its spectacular gold rooms.

### Day Eight | Tbilisi

We travel to **Kakheti**. We visit monastery of **Iqalto** then continue with a visit to **Tsinandali**, the 19th century summer palace of the princely Chavchavadze family. Over lunch at a local winery, we sample the local wines and learn about the ancient Georgian 'Qvevri' wine-making tradition.

### Day Nine | Tbilisi

Today is our last day in Tbilisi and we start with a visit to the **Open Air Ethnographic House Museum**. We continue to the **National Gallery**.

### Day Ten | Tbilisi - Borjomi

We start our day at **Mtskheta**, Georgia's ancient capital and religious centre. After visiting the 6th century **Jvari Church**, we explore the excavations of **Armazitsikhe**. We finish at **Svetitskhoveli**

**Cathedral**. After lunch, we visit **Gori** for the ancient rock-cut city of **Uplistsikhe** and the **Stalin Museum**.

### Day Eleven | Borjomi

This morning we drive to the medieval cave monastery of **Vardzia**. This afternoon we return to Borjomi via **Akhaltzikhe** and the **Rabati fortress**, a centre for Ottoman slaving at late as the 1820s.

### Day Twelve | Borjomi - Kutaisi

We drive to Kutaisi this morning, Georgia's second city and historic capital of Imereti. Here, we visit the royal monastery and UNESCO-listed site of **Gelati**. After lunch, we have free time to explore.

### Day Thirteen | Kutaisi - Batumi

Today we visit our Guide Lecturer's site of **Nokalakevi**. The extensive ruins of a large Byzantine-period fortress stand atop earlier archaeological levels going back through the 1st millennium BC to at least the 3rd millennium. In the afternoon, we drive through the Colchian lowlands towards the Black Sea coast, arriving at Batumi.

### Day Fourteen | Batumi

We start with a walking tour of **Batumi**, before visiting the Roman playing-card fort at **Apsarus**, with its small museum. After lunch, we enjoy some free time.

### Day Fifteen | Batumi - London

Our tour ends today and we fly back to London.



### Guided by Ian Colvin

Ian is a researcher and historian who specialises in the Roman and Byzantine history of the Caucasus regions.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Flights, local transport, hotel accommodation, and meals
- Water during the tour and with all meals, wine & tea, or coffee with dinner
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- Field notes and local guide services as required

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	Sgl Supp.
6th - 20th Jun	£6,550	£6,100 £810

**Includes £450 Summer Saver discount if you book by 31st May 2024**

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