

# Explore the Past and Discover Archaeological Treasures

April-June 2025



Expertly guided | Small group size | In-depth itineraries

# Experience the beauty of spring with a trip of a lifetime

Dear Traveller,

We are pleased to present an inspiring range of tours for spring, a quieter time of year to travel, allowing you to make the most of the sunshine and fewer crowds. Discover the vibrant beauty and charm of this season as we take you on a journey through blossoming landscapes, ancient mysteries and archaeological adventures.

The warmer weather makes exploring these sites and landmarks across Europe and beyond even more comfortable and enjoyable. Join us on Cruising the Seine which includes time exploring Versailles, a truly breathtaking place to visit in spring. The gardens are in full bloom, with vibrant flowers and the fountains are also operational, adding a touch of grandeur to the already magnificent setting.

With fewer crowds compared to the peak summer season, you can experience a more intimate and immersive archaeological experience. Discover Sicily & the Aeolian Islands and spend four nights on Lipari exploring the UNESCO-listed Aeolian Islands. Known for their unique volcanic origins, stunning natural beauty and crystal-clear waters. Springtime brings mild temperatures, blooming flora and fewer tourists, making it an ideal season to explore this Mediterranean paradise. Our Northern Adriatic cruise which is new for this year, explores historic ports and coastal gems in Italy and led by popular Guide Lecturer Dr Eireann Marshall.

As always, Andante Travels offers unique itineraries, guided by experts, providing an enriching and unforgettable travel experience. Whichever tour you choose, you can be assured of a memorable time away with one-of-a-kind discoveries to treasure.

Join us as we explore the best that spring has to offer.



*Jackie Willis*  
CEO



## Get in touch with an expert

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

01722 705 210 | [andantetravels.co.uk](http://andantetravels.co.uk)

### NEW IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR 2025 TRAVEL TO EUROPE: EES & ETIAS

If you are travelling to Europe, new mandatory border checks (EES) and travel authorisation requirements (ETIAS) are likely to be introduced at some point in 2025. Please read the booking conditions on our website to carefully to understand how this may affect your journey and what pre-travel requirements you will need to make. Further details can be found at <http://travel-europe.europa.eu>.

**BOOKING CONDITIONS** - Full booking conditions available at [www.andantetravels.co.uk/booking-conditions](http://www.andantetravels.co.uk/booking-conditions)

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# Benefit from expert knowledge to enhance your tour

What makes an Andante Travels tour a cut above the rest? One of the main reasons 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.

### Oliver Gilkes



One of our longest-standing Guide Lecturers, Oliver has worked as a field and museum archaeologist in the UK, Albania and Italy. Join Oliver on The Samnites p24.

### Dr Eireann Marshall



A previous Wanderlust World Guide Awards-winner, Eireann is set to lead several of our tours in 2025 including Archaeology in the Heart of Italy p27, Lake Garda & the Cities of Veneto p23 and Carthage & Roman Tunisia p32.

### Terry Richardson



Terry has a background in Ancient History and Classical Civilisations, is the author of several Rough Guide publications, and has also written about Turkey and Istanbul for Wanderlust, the Daily Telegraph and The Guardian. Join him on our Turkey: from Çatal Hüyük to Göbekli Tepe p35.

### Dr Jamie Sewell



Dr Jamie Sewell has fifteen years' experience supervising excavations in Britain, Germany, Romania and Italy, including Pompeii. Join Jamie on our Pompeii, Herculaneum & Classical Campania tour p16, our new Rome tour p22, and Classical Sicily p26.

### Dr Christina Hatzimichael-Whitley



Dr Christina Hatzimichael-Whitley is a lecturer at Cardiff University, where she teaches Greek art and archaeology. You can join her on The Peloponnese p17, Crete & Santorini p52 and Wild Thrace p16.

### Tony O'Connor



A specialist in the Roman Empire and an archaeologist with extensive field experience, join Tony on Classical Sicily p26, Lake Garda & The Cities of Veneto p23 and Carthage & Roman Tunisia p32.

### Dr Paul Bahn



Dr Paul Bahn is the leading expert on prehistoric rock art worldwide, and is certainly one of our best-known archaeologists. In 2025 you can join Paul on our Rock Art of Spain & Portugal tour p31.

### John Shepherd



Winner of the Wanderlust World Guide Award - History & Culture 2023, John has worked extensively in the field in Europe as an archaeologist. Join John on our new Rome tour p22, Hidden Paris p12, and on our cruises.



# Open your eyes to natural wonders and ancient civilisations ...

Travelling outside the main summer season offers a chance to explore destinations with smaller crowds before the peak summer season begins.

At this time of year, archaeological and ancient places seem to take a breath before the heat of summer, enjoying the calm and tranquillity of the season all the while lush landscapes and gardens come to life, offering a change of palette to enjoy. We encourage you to experience this wonderful season across countries including Italy, Greece, Turkey and more.

Take advantage of warmer weather, longer days and embrace new experiences. Enjoy a real holiday, led by an expert guide where every day is spent in good company, amid beautiful landscapes, immersed in the stuff of past lives.

Are you looking for travel inspiration? Take a look at our handpicked destinations to and start planning your next escape.



## Göbekli Tepe

(TURKEY: FROM ÇATAL HÜYÜK TO GÖBEKLI TEPE PAGE 34)

Situated in the Anti Taurus mountains of South East Turkey, the spectacular early Neolithic complex of Gobekli Tepe is best explored when the weather is kind. Travelling to the site through alpine scenery refreshed by recent snow melt is a delight and the site itself never fails to disappoint. It's the perfect season to immerse yourself in the history and natural beauty of such an extraordinary region of Turkey.

## The Colosseum

(ROME, THE ETERNAL CITY PAGE 22)

As the weather warms up, the ancient amphitheatre is bathed in sunlight, making its grandeur even more striking. The surrounding gardens come to life with blooming flowers, adding a splash of colour to the historic setting. Spring provides the perfect opportunity to capture stunning photographs of the Colosseum against a backdrop of clear blue skies and blossoming trees.



## Knossos

(CRETE – INTRODUCING THE MINOANS PAGE 15)

Knossos in spring is a sight to behold. The ancient ruins, surrounded by lush greenery, create a picturesque setting that transports visitors back in time. The mild weather during this season makes it ideal for exploring the archaeological site at a leisurely pace, without the intense heat of summer.

## Verona

(LAKE GARDA & THE CITIES OF VENETO PAGE 23)

Lake Garda is renowned for its beauty and its mild climate makes it a wonderful place to visit at any time of the year. It is at its best, however, in the Spring before the Summer visitors arrive when the little lakeside town of Sirmione is relatively quiet and when the Veronese countryside is adorned with Spring blooms. Among the tour's many highlights we explore Desenzano Roman Villa, a once large and sumptuous property which enjoys stunning views over the cobalt blue waters of the lake. Here we can also admire its colourful mosaic floors depicting various scenes of cupids, maenads and satyrs; wild beasts and images of the four seasons.



## Homer's tomb,

### ISLAND OF IOS (THE CYCLADES PAGE 19)

Homer's tomb, located on the picturesque island of Ios, is a must-visit destination, especially in the spring. This season brings mild weather and lovely flowers, making the stroll to the tomb both pleasant and scenic. Legend has it that at Plakoto on the northernmost part of the island, Homer was finally laid to rest. It certainly is the ideal plot - from here there are breath-taking views over the Aegean sea. Ios is known as the party island in peak summer but in the Spring it is beautifully peaceful with few visitors to disturb the tranquillity of its ancient sites. Don't miss the chance to explore this island when it is at its best.



## Gozo, Malta

### (PREHISTORIC MALTA & GOZO PAGE 9)

The capital of Malta, this charming UNESCO World Heritage capital city comes alive in spring and is particularly delightful due to the mild weather and fewer crowds compared to the peak summer months. The temperatures are comfortable, making it perfect for strolls through the city's narrow streets and open-air dining.

One of the highlights of our tour is taking the short crossing from Malta to Gozo, associated by locals with Homer as the island home of Calypso, Odysseus' temptress and captor. We spend all day on the island where we see a prehistoric megalithic complex of exceptional grandeur; the Xaghra Stone Circle and the ruins Santa Verna, a megalithic site left to the ravages of time.



## Search for wildlife off the coast of the British Isles

### (ARCHAEOLOGY AND WILDLIFE OF THE PEMBROKESHIRE COAST PAGE 35)

Skomer and Skokholm islands are renowned for their extraordinary wildlife, especially in the spring. During this season, visitors can witness the bustling activity of seabirds, including puffins, guillemots and razorbills. Additionally, grey seals can often be seen lounging on the rocky shores or swimming in the surrounding waters. The islands' rich flora, including bluebells and sea campion, also add to the idyllic landscape, making it a must-visit destination for nature enthusiasts.



## 'Sanctuary of the Gods', Island of Samothrace

### (WILD THRACE PAGE 16)

The Sanctuary of the Gods, located on the island of Samothrace, is an ancient site that holds great historical and archaeological significance. This sanctuary, was a major religious centre in ancient Greece, renowned for its mystery cults and the initiation rites of the Kabeiroi, which attracted pilgrims from all over the ancient world.

The island of Samothrace is one of the most beautiful in the Northern Aegean. Its renowned for its waterfalls fed by streams from Mount Saos and its many natural pools, called vathres, carved into stone by rivers. Spring is a glorious time to visit when flowers spill from window boxes and trees form canopies over restaurants and cafes.

# Often imitated, never matched. Expert-led archaeological tours.

Unearth history's treasures with Andante, the pioneering British specialist on in-depth archaeological travels. Venturing beyond mere cultural excursions, we craft extraordinary journeys, granting you access to the world's most significant historical sites. With 24-hour support from our dedicated team and meticulously planned itineraries, rely on Andante for an unparalleled odyssey into antiquity.



EXCEPTIONAL  
feefo

## Reasons to book

WITH ANDANTE TRAVELS

**We keep it small with a maximum group size of 18**



**We take you to see the key sights** - our expertise and 40 years of experience ensure you see the best of your destination



**We don't cut corners** - we make sure you're not rushed and have quality time at each site



**Learn from our high calibre Guide Lecturers** - our experts will accompany you on all visits and all are highly regarded in their area of expertise



**Tour Managers accompany most tours** - leaving our Guide Lecturers to focus on bringing you the best insight



**Expertly planned itineraries** - carefully thought out to follow a theme



**Excellent value** - we include all local transport, meals, and on most tours wine at dinner, no passing around a hat for tips as these are all included



**Individuality** - we never treat you like a number, make you wear a badge or wave an umbrella at you



**Expert service** - our team are on hand to support, before, during and after your tour



### ACTIVITY LEVEL RATINGS EXPLAINED

We have designed a grading system to help you understand how strenuous or relaxed your tour is likely to be. The levels are determined by components that make up a tour, such as distance and terrain walked, the driving distances covered and each day's length - from the moment you leave the hotel to your return.

- Level 1 - Gentle** A tour that is determined as gentle will have a relaxed pace, with little walking and less exertion where travel and day length are concerned.
- Level 2 - Light** On light tours, anticipate mild walking with a mostly relaxed pace. There will be more visits and travelling than on our gentle tours, but not by much.
- Level 3 - Moderate** A decent level of fitness is required for our moderate tours. There could be walking between sites, more standing and more travelling to encounter.
- Level 4 - Active** If you choose an active tour, come prepared for longer days - and ones that fit more in. More walking, bigger distances covered and more energy!
- Level 5 - Challenging** For challenging tours, you'll need to be physically fit. Days could include long drives, hikes and multiple visits, meaning they'll be lengthy and tiring.

Look out for this panel on all our tour pages

Activity Level ○○○○○

# Bulgaria

Thracian Treasures & Mountain Monasteries



Discover spectacularly varied history and landscapes, introduced by an archaeologist who has excavated all over this country

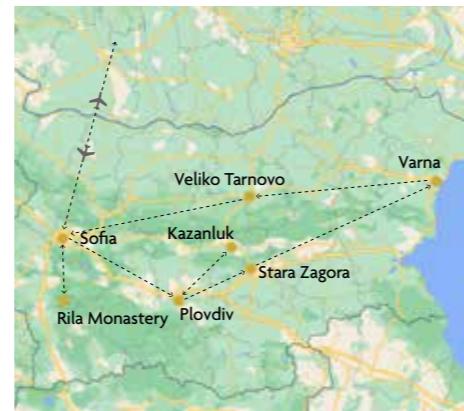
Visit no fewer than six fantastic UNESCO World Heritage Sites

From the Neolithic houses of Stara Zagora and Roman Plovdiv to the exuberantly painted churches in the Rila Mountains – we explore it all

Spend a full day in Plovdiv, named European Capital of Culture in 2019

12 DAYS FROM £4,195pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Dr Katya Melamed**  
Dr Katya Melamed is a Bulgarian archaeologist who enjoys an enviable reputation for her longstanding research and excavation work throughout the country.



Following a golden age for archaeological discoveries, Bulgaria is now one of the culturally richest countries in Europe, featuring Neolithic settlements, Thracian tombs, and exuberantly painted Medieval churches. The quality and selection of sites here are outstanding and our tour will introduce the complicated history and cultures of the mosaic of peoples who have occupied the fertile plains bordering the River Danube.

#### Day One | London - Sofia

We depart from London and arrive in Sofia where we transfer to our hotel.

#### Day Two | Sofia

This morning we visit the Serdica Archaeological Complex and the National Archaeological Museum in Sofia. In the afternoon we admire the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, a mint-coloured meringue of architectural delight, the frescoes which decorate St. George Rotunda a 4th century and the Byzantine church of St. Sofia, which gave the city its name.

#### Day Three | Rila Monastery

We visit the eponymous Rila Monastery, an iconic masterpiece and one of Bulgaria's most famous and most beautiful sites.

#### Day Four | Sofia - Plovdiv

We start at the National Museum of History followed by a visit the UNESCO-listed Boyana Church with its remarkable 13th-century frescoes. After lunch, we drive south east to Plovdiv.

#### Day Five | Plovdiv

We enjoy a full day visiting the archaeological sites in this city, founded by Philip of Macedon.

#### Day Six | Plovdiv – Kazanlak

We drive north to the 'Valley of the Thracian Kings' stopping en route at the village of Hisarya. We visit the small History Museum before we continue to the 'Valley of the Thracian Kings' where we explore three of the 1500 burial mounds in this

area including the beautiful replica of the Kazanluk Tomb.

#### Day Seven | Plovdiv - Stara Zagora

The Thracian tomb of Aleksandrovo with its fine mosaics, is first on our list to visit today. Later we continue to Stara Zagora, to see the extraordinary Neolithic houses from the 6th millennium BCE.

#### Day Eight | Stara Zagora - Varna

There are very few prehistoric sites in Europe as important as Karanovo situated on the edge of the modern village of that name. We start our day at this fabulous site before driving east to Nessebar. Afterwards, we continue north to Varna.

#### Day Nine | Varna

We spend the morning at the superb Archaeological Museum in Varna, one of the oldest in Bulgaria. After lunch, we have time to explore this coastal city including its Roman bath complex.

#### Day Ten | Varna – Veliko Tarnovo

This morning we visit the impressive Madara Horseman rock relief, carved on a high sandstone cliff which rises above the village of Madara. Afterwards, we visit the Sveshtari Thracian Tomb.

#### Day Eleven | Veliko Tarnovo

We start our day in Veliko Tarnovo, the capital of the medieval Bulgarian Tsars. We explore the Tsarevets fortress and also discover the Bulgarian Orthodox Church of Saints Peter and Paul. Later, we travel to the ancient site of Nicopolis ad Istrum once a thriving Roman colony.

#### Day Twelve | Veliko Tarnovo – Sofia - London

On the final day of our tour, we head to Arbanasi where we visit the Nativity Church. After lunch we return to Sofia in time for our late evening flight to the UK.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Sofia, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Varna & Veliko Tarnovo

#### Culinary inclusions

- 11 breakfasts, 11 lunches & 11 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
22nd Apr - 3rd May	£4,445	£4,195 £490

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

Image: Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Sofia

# Prehistoric Malta & Gozo

Malta's first inhabitants



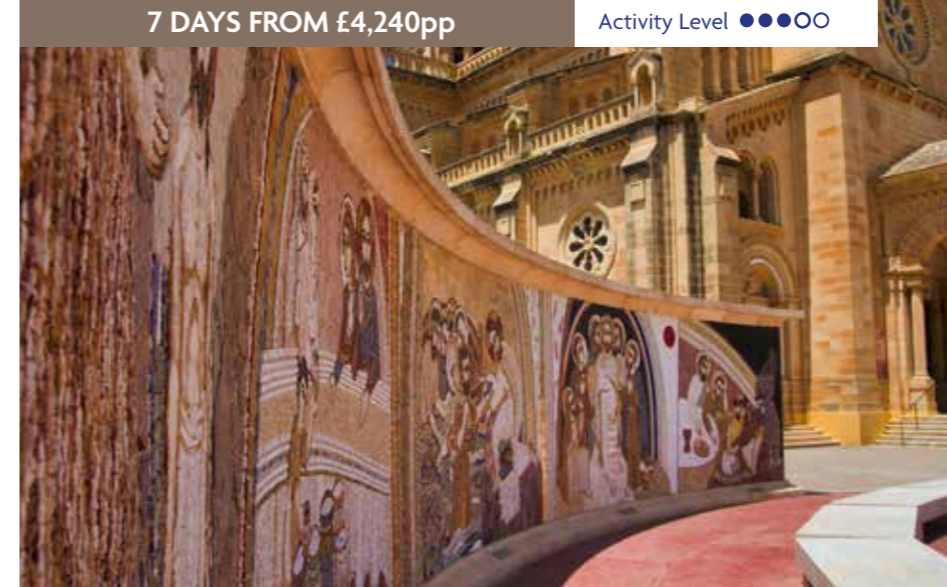
Discover the extraordinary prehistoric culture, whose stone monuments predate the pyramids by over 1,000 years

Explore the cave and associated museum at Ghar Dalam Cave, the lowest layers of which are over 500,000 years old

Enjoy the timeless atmosphere of Valletta, Malta's charming UNESCO World Heritage capital city

7 DAYS FROM £4,240pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Dr Rita Roussos**  
A native Athenian, Rita taught Archaeology and Art History at the American University of Athens. She is particularly interested in the place of women in ancient Greece and Rome.



The island of Malta might be small but it certainly packs a big punch in historical terms. In the struggle for dominion of the Mediterranean it has played a key role in centuries of sparring between the east and west. Enduring occupation from the Phoenicians, Romans, Greeks, Arabs, Normans, Sicilians, Hospitallers, French, and British, it has a colourful and complex heritage. Our focus, however, is on its earliest and most extraordinary occupation when some 5000 years ago this tiny archipelago was home to an astonishing culture which created elaborate stone temples and rock cut tombs.

#### Day One | London - Valletta

We fly to Malta from London and transfer to our hotel in Valletta for our first dinner together as a group.

#### Day Two | Mġarr & Mdina

Beginning in the town of Mġarr, we visit the two conjoined temples of **Ta' Haġrat** and **Mġarr**. We continue to the village site of Skorba, which has significantly contributed to our understanding of early Maltese prehistory. We spend the afternoon in **Mdina** – The Silent City – which served as the island capital from antiquity through to the Medieval period.

#### Day Three | Valletta

A day spent exploring **Valletta** on foot. We begin with the exceptional array of artefacts from Malta's unique prehistoric periods in the **Archaeological Museum** from man's first arrival on the island, up to the end of the Bronze Age. We also visit **St. John's Co-Cathedral** and the **Grand Master's Palace** with facades of some of the many Auberges of the Knights.

#### Day Four | Haġar-Qim, Mnajdra & Tarxien

Today we visit the magnificent temple sites at **Haġar-Qim** and **Mnajdra**. These megalithic structures sit clustered close together at the top of a promontory with superb views over the sea. The internal arrangement of Haġar Qim is highly complex involving what are probably many building and reconstruction phases and the lower

temple at Mnajdra is astronomically aligned. In the afternoon, access permitting, we explore the **Hal Saflieni Hypogeum**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Nearby, we will visit **Tarxien** megalithic site, one of the most elaborate of all the Megalithic temples on the island which has undergone extensive excavation and restoration.

#### Day Five | Ghar Dalam & Xemxija Heritage Trail

This morning, we visit **Ghar Dalam**, the oldest of Malta's monuments. This water-worn tunnel is approximately 15.5m above sea level, 45m deep, and accessible for about 80m on foot. Here, large quantities of Pleistocene faunal remains (including dwarf hippos and elephants) were found, together with evidence for the earliest known human activity on the island. In the afternoon, we will explore Xemxija. Here, we will also see the Romano Punic apiaries built into a natural cave recess. The honeycombs would have hung in vertical panels in their small chambers within easy reach of the beekeepers.

#### Day Six | Gozo

We take the short crossing by ferry to Gozo, associated by locals with Homer as the island home of Calypso, Odysseus' temptress and captor. The pace of life is slower here and the landscape is greener. We spend all day on the island where we see **Ggantija**, a prehistoric megalithic complex of exceptional grandeur; the **Xagħra Stone Circle** a significant funerary complex and the ruins **Santa**

**Verna**, a megalithic site left to the ravages of time. We will also visit the town of Victoria and the **Archaeology Museum** which provides a small but important window into the earliest cultures of Gozo up to the arrival of the Knights of St. John.

#### Day Seven | Valletta - London

We transfer to the airport for our flight home.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Chania & Heraklion

#### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
7th - 13th Apr	£4,240	£770

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

Image: Valletta

# Cruising the Seine

Paris, Honfleur & the Seine Valley



Discover the magnificence of Versailles, embellished over centuries by generations of renowned architects, sculptors and landscape designers

Explore the Roman theatre at Lillebonne and the part ancient Juliabona played in the Gallic Wars

Admire the architectural masterpiece of Sainte Chapelle one of the greatest examples of Gothic art

Enjoy the ultimate hidden attraction – the subterranean Catacombes de Paris

7 DAYS FROM £3,795pp

Activity Level ●●●●○

SMALL SHIP CRUISE



The silvery Seine has been the subject of many famous painters who sought to replicate its constantly changing and flickering light and what better way to get acquainted with its sinuous beauty than with a cruise from Paris to Rouen. This stretch of the Seine meanders through gentle green countryside and chalk valleys passing a delightful mix of market towns, working farms, ancient orchards, pretty villages and sites rich in cultural heritage. Our programme includes visits to hidden gems in France's alluring capital, an excursion to the magnificent Palace of Versailles; an induction to the historical heart of Honfleur and Roman discoveries in Rouen and Lillebonne.

## Day One | London – Paris

We depart from London aboard the Eurostar to the Gard du Nord. This afternoon we visit the **Musee Carnavalet** which houses collections dedicated to the history of the city.

## Day Two | Paris

We start our day in the vibrant area of **Le Marais**. This part of the city has more pre-revolutionary buildings and streets left intact than any other and is the closest you will get to the feel of medieval Paris. In the afternoon we visit the **Musée de Cluny** and end the day with a visit to the **Catacombes de Paris**.

## Day Three | Paris - Poissy

This morning, we visit the Ile de la Cite and the **Sainte Chapelle**, hidden within the Palais de Justice. We continue to the **Conciergerie**, formerly part of the palace complex but repurposed during the Revolution as a tribunal and prison. We end the day at the **Musée de Louvre**. This evening, we will enjoy a cocktail before dinner on board; the ship will set sail through Paris tonight en route to Poissy.

## Day Four | Poissy - Versailles - Le Havre

We disembark in Poissy and join other Croisi passengers as we make our way to **Versailles**. Originally a hunting lodge and rural retreat, Versailles was transformed into the magnificent Baroque Palace we see today by Louis XIV when

he made it his seat of power, moving his court and government there in 1682.

## Day Five | Le Havre - Rouen

Our first visit today is **Honfleur**, the prettiest of the Normandy ports, with its tall, slate fronted houses shouldering each other on the yacht-filled harbour.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** In the afternoon we take a trip out to **Lillebonne**. The city boasted a large theatre designed to seat at least 3000 people and we shall explore its remains as well as the small **archaeological museum**.

## Day Six | Rouen - Paris

Having sailed overnight we arrive in the city of **Rouen**, capital of the northern French region of Normandy.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We explore Rouen, a city steeped in history with a vibrant and compelling mix of modern architecture and medieval half-timbered houses. This afternoon we set sail on our return journey to Paris.

## Day Seven | Paris - London

This morning, we disembarked our ship and head across the channel by Eurostar back to London.

*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.*



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

John Shepherd

An archaeologist who has worked around Europe, John is an ancient glass specialist.



## MS Renoir

The MS Renoir is a premium rated ship, comparable to a 4\* hotel. Its design adopts the "French chic" spirit, inspired by the friendship between Coco Chanel and Auguste Renoir. The Upper Deck has two main areas; the lounge and bar towards the bow of the ship, and the restaurant towards the stern. Cabins are 16.5 m<sup>2</sup> in size include a TV, telephone (for internal calls), safe, independent air-conditioning, electricity 220V, Wi-Fi, ensuite bathroom with shower, hairdryer, selection of bath products and towels.

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Exclusive Andante excursions with entry to all sites as stated in the itinerary
- An excursion to Versailles and a guided walking tour of Honfleur with Croisi Europe, shared with other passengers
- Field Notes
- All taxes (including port taxes) & gratuities

## Included travel

- Return travel by Eurostar from London & all local transport

## Accommodation

- 2 nights at a hotel in Paris & 4 nights aboard the MS Renoir

## Culinary inclusions

- 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches & 6 dinners
- At hotels: water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner
- MS Renoir: 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

## Dates & prices per person

2nd - 8th April	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
Main Deck Outside Cabin with a window	£4,645	£3,795 £845
Upper Deck Outside Cabin with a large floor to ceiling window	£4,300	£4,050 £845

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

Image: MS Renoir in Paris

# Chauvet & Cosquer

An in-depth analysis of two of palaeontology's greatest finds



An in-depth analysis of two of palaeontology's greatest finds in the company an expert

Visit to Grotte Chauvet II to explore this unique facility

See the state-of-the-art facsimile of La Grotte Cosquer

4 DAYS FROM £2,520pp

Activity Level ●●●●○



Palaeolithic cave paintings and engravings are mankind's first recognisable artistic expression, but they mean more even than that. They show creatures which were extant during the Ice Age, shed light on hunter-gatherer culture thousands of years old and many archaeologists believe that the art is a highly sophisticated way of expressing complex beliefs about the supernatural world. The story of mankind is a constantly changing jigsaw puzzle in which many pieces are missing or even change shape as improvements in scientific dating methods and new discoveries redefine them yet again. Join us for an in-depth analysis of two of palaeontology's greatest finds in the company of an expert on rock art and fabulous exponent of popular and accessible archaeology.

## Day One | London - Marseille - Avignon

We fly to Marseille and transfer to our hotel. There will be an evening lecture before dinner.

## Day Two | Chauvet

Lessons learned at Lascaux, where the cave suffered irreparable damage before its closure in 1963, the Chauvet cave has never been opened to the public since its discovery in 1994. Restrictions imposed by the French Ministry of Culture bar all but scientists and other researchers from the fragile environment of the cave itself. However, recognising that an international audience was clamouring to view the cave, a \$62.5 million facsimile, called the **Grotte Chauvet II** was created and we will explore this unique facility. The simulated cavern is not only a stunning real-life recreation of the cave but also a celebration of its discovery when three weekend cavers tunnelled their way through a narrow passage, and descended into a world frozen in time - its main entrance blocked off by a massive rock slide perhaps 21,000 years ago. In the afternoon we will drive to Aven D'Ornac where we visit the **Cite de la Prehistoire**. The exhibitions here take us on a journey from the Middle Paleolithic to the first Iron Age covering a period of 350,000 years from Neanderthal to Homo Sapiens.

## Day Three | Cosquer

We spend our morning at **Cosquer Mediterranee**, to see the state-of-the-art facsimile of La Grotte Cosquer. Six years in the making, this new museum opened its doors in June 2022, and it is evident that the technical skill used to create the facsimile at Lascaux and Chauvet has shown dividends here. The entire scale of the 2,300m<sup>2</sup> cave system has been faithfully replicated with meticulous attention to detail. As you are conveyed through the tunnels, skilful lighting reveals more than 500 images which unfold just as you travel deeper into the facsimile. In the afternoon we will explore the Museum of Mediterranean Archaeology, second in France only to the Louvre, which occupies part of the imposing old monastery, the Centre de la Vieille Charité. The Mediterranean Basin and Near East department offers a very rich ceramic and lapidary collection, some of which are unique.

## Day Four | Avignon - Marseille - London

We transfer to the airport for our flight home.



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Dr Rob Dinnis

An expert on the Palaeolithic and archaeology of the last Ice Age, Rob has published many papers on how people lived.



## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

## Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

## Accommodation

- Accommodation in the Avignon area

## Culinary inclusions

- 3 breakfasts, 4 lunches & 3 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

## Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
8th - 11th Apr	£2,520	£205

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

Image: Grotte Chauvet II

# Hidden Paris

Peek beyond the famous landmarks and explore the secret archaeology



Explore the Conciergerie, formerly part of the palace complex but repurposed during the Revolution as tribunal and prison  
Admire the architectural masterpiece of Sainte Chapelle, one of the greatest examples of Gothic art  
Enjoy the ultimate hidden attraction – the subterranean Catacombes de Paris

6 DAYS FROM £3,340pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



The tree-lined boulevards, elegant architecture and cobbled riverbanks along the silvery Seine have made Paris one of the most recognisable and romantic cities in Europe. First-time visitors are understandably impressed by its historic monuments, but peek beyond the famous landmarks and you will see another side of Paris to which only the most curious are privy.

### Day One | London - Paris

We depart from London aboard the Eurostar, and glide into the Gare du Nord. After checking in to our hotel, we gather for an exploration of the historic Marais district, where a 12th century fortress remains tucked away among its streets.

### Day Two | Sainte Chapelle & Musée de Louvre

This morning we visit the Île de la Cité. This area of Paris is home to many famous sites, but our goal is the infamous Palais de Justice and hidden within it, Sainte Chapelle. This architectural masterpiece was built to accommodate holy relics acquired by Louis IX in 1239 and it ranks as one of the greatest examples of Gothic art in France alongside the cathedrals of Notre Dame and Chartres. We continue to the Conciergerie before ending the day at the Musée de Louvre.

### Day Three | Egouts & Saint-Germain-en-Laye

We make an unusual visit to the Egouts, a complex network of tunnels which mirror the city streets. The sewers have long been an unusual attraction for visitors and guided tours were conducted by boat or wagon as early as the 19th century. Later, we head to the leafy suburbs of Saint-Germain-en-Laye, and the National Archaeological Museum.

### Day Four | Sacré Coeur & Musée de Montmartre

We head to Montmartre in the 18th arrondissement. This hilltop right bank neighbourhood with its narrow alleys and cobbled lanes retains some of the famous village atmosphere that appealed so much to the artists of the 19th and 20th centuries. Here we visit the snow-white confection of Sacré Coeur and the nearby unsung gem, the Church of St. Pierre. There is a Roman temple to Mars tucked away within its holy grounds and we admire the spolia repurposed within the church. We end the day at the Musée de Montmartre.

### Day Five | Arènes de Lutèce & Catacombes de Paris

We explore the city's Romano-Gallic origins with a visit to the Arènes de Lutèce, site of the Roman amphitheatre. Built in the 2nd century AD, it was designed to seat up to 15,000 people. In the afternoon we visit the Musée de Cluny where we visit the Roman baths that lurk beneath the museum. We end the day with a visit to the Catacombes de Paris. After several years of modernisation and accessibility work, the museum reopened in May 2022 with a brand new museography.

### Day Six | Paris - London

We leave Paris behind and return to London.

### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**John Shepherd**  
Winner of the Wanderlust World Guide Award - History & Culture 2023, John has worked extensively in the field in Europe.



### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return train travel from London & all local transport including the Paris Metro

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Paris

#### Culinary inclusions

- 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches & 5 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
13th - 18th May	£3,540	£3,340 £625

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

Image: Notre Dame; Stryge and demon

# Romans & Gauls

From Alesia to Lugdunum



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

8 DAYS FROM £4,470pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Prof. Tony King**  
Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Winchester, Tony has excavated both in Britain and abroad. He is also a specialist in Roman archaeology and an expert in animal bone analysis.



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. This territory was right in the heart of Gaul, and it was here at Alesia, that Julius Caesar finally conquered his Gallic opponents. A statue of Vercingetorix, the Celts' supreme commander, symbolizes the extinction of the Celts' independence and marks the place where France was born or at least conceived.

### 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 Muséeopark Museum and reconstructions.

### Day Three | Autun & Bibracte

We travel to Autun in the Saône Valley, one of the wealthiest towns in Roman Gaul and home to an impressive theatre, town walls and gates, along with fascinating remains of a large Romano-Celtic temple. We continue to Bibracte in the afternoon, the 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 many wooden, bronze and stone ex-votos they placed there represent the parts of the human or animal body affected by disease. Leaving the city, we travel through the Burgundy vineyards, with a spot of wine tasting on the way, to Nuits-St-Georges with its Roman town and

temple site, and the museum.

### Day Five | Dijon - Lyon

We travel south to Lyon today, stopping on the way at the charming riverside town of 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, mother house of the Cluniac Order before continuing to Lyon.

### Day Six | Lyon

Today is dedicated to Lyon. Here we discover the capital of the Three Gauls (Gallia Celtica, Belgica, 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 has seen extensive excavation and a fascinating Gallo-Roman museum.

### Day Eight | Lyon - London

We transfer to the airport for our return flight back to London.



### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Dijon & Lyon

#### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
10th - 17th Jun	£4,770	£4,470 £590

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

Images top to bottom: Saone river

# Roman Germany

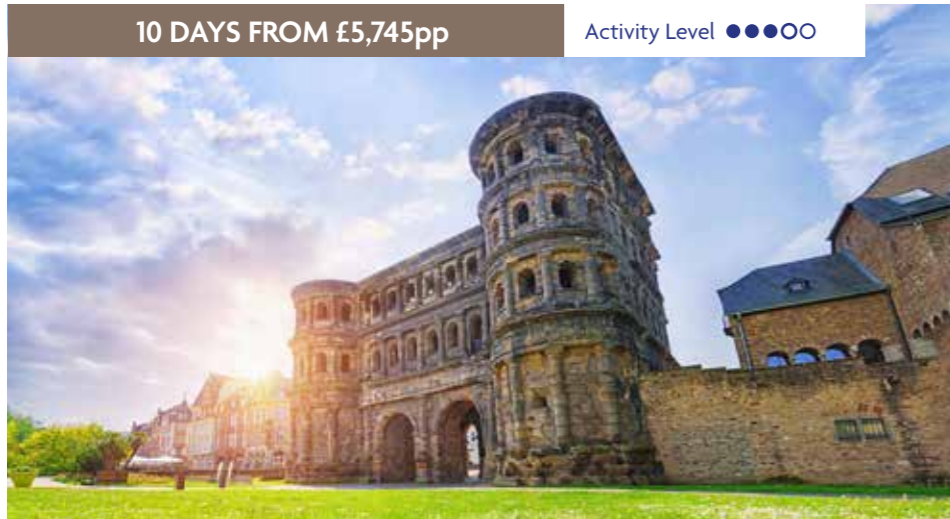
Exploring the Rhine Frontier



- Explore the remains of the fort and reconstructed watchtower at the UNESCO site of Saalburg
- Admire the richly illustrated gladiatorial mosaic at the Villa Nennig, one of the most important Roman artefacts north of the Alps
- Visit the Museum fur Antike Sciffahrt in Mainz for an unparalleled exploration in the ancient art of seafaring
- Explore the impressive Roman remains the UNESCO listed Trier, including the Porta Nigra

10 DAYS FROM £5,745pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



In AD 9, the largest army of the Roman Empire suffered unprecedented defeat at the Teutoburg Forest where Publius Quinctilius Varus famously lost 3 legions along with accompanying auxiliary troops. This episode – long remembered in Rome and etched in Augustus' memory – brought about a change in Roman strategies in Germany. Rome by and large abandoned further expansion in Germany and, instead, constructed the limes Germanicus, a defence system of bank, ditch, wall and forts which developed over time. This involved a massive concentration of the army in this area and, with that, the acculturation of the native populations as troops interacted with locals. For this reason, there is a plethora of Roman archaeological sites, both domestic and military, along the limes. In this beautiful part of Europe often overlooked by tourists, we will explore extraordinary museums, such as the Romano Germanic museum in Cologne and the Museum fur Antike Sciffahrt in Mainz, stunning houses such as the Ahrweiler Villa and the Villa Nennig, along with the limes itself and Rome's strategies for controlling its borders. We end with the Aachen, the stunning capital of the Holy Roman empire with its unique cathedral.

**Day One | London - Düsseldorf - Cologne**  
We fly to Düsseldorf from London and transfer to our hotel in Cologne. Time permitting, there will be an evening walk where we might admire the skyline dominated by Cologne's famous cathedral.

**Day Two | Xanten**  
Heading north, we arrive at Xanten where the Roman town of Colonia Ulpia Traiana has been reconstructed, allowing us to experience Roman buildings, baths and the amphitheatre as they were.

**Day Three | Cologne**  
We explore the impressive remains of Cologne, starting with the excellent collections of the Romano-Germanic Museum. After lunch we visit the hidden gems dating from the Roman period.

**Day Four | Cologne – Boppard - Braubach**  
Today we visit the extensive Ahrweiler villa, built in the 1st century AD at the height of the empire, and continue to Boppard, a UNESCO listed town with a medieval core. Then it's onwards by boat to our next hotel in Braubach.

**Day Five | Zugmantel, Saalburg & Feldberg**  
We reach the limes – the 500km fortified

boundary, starting with the remains of a fort in Zugmantel built in the Flavian period, and proceed to the UNESCO listed site of Saalburg, home to a spectacularly reconstructed cohort fort and an excellent museum. We end the day at the limes in Feldberg which preserves remains of a bath house, granary and praetorium.

**Day Six | Braubach - Mainz - Trier**  
A drive along the Rhine takes us to Mainz and the Museum fur Antike Sciffahrt, which displays the remains of 6 remarkably well-preserved ships found in the Rhine. After lunch, we visit the Temple of Isis in Mainz and then have free time before heading to Trier.

**Day Seven | Trier**  
Trier is a UNESCO listed site for its spectacular Roman remains, the most significant in German. Highlights include the Museum am Dom, the Rheinisches Landesmuseum, which contains one of the best collections of ancient artefacts in Germany, and Constantine's Basilica.

**Day Eight | Porta Nigra & Villa Borg**  
This morning we visit the famous Porta Nigra as well as the Kaiserthermen Baths, dating back to the 4th century. We proceed to the funerary



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Tony Wilmott**  
Senior Archaeologist with Historic England, Tony has directed many excavations, and published several books and many articles in archaeological journals. He specializes in the Roman periods, with a particular interest in the Roman military.



monument of Igel, before driving to the Villa Nennig where we see the most important gladiatorial mosaic north of the Alps. We end the day with the impressive reconstruction of Villa Borg.

**Day Nine | Trier - Aachen**  
We drive to Aachen, where Charlemagne was crowned in 800. We take a walking tour of the city and visit the Treasury, richly endowed by Holy Roman emperors, and end the day at the incredible UNESCO listed Cathedral of Aachen.

**Day Ten | Aachen - Dusseldorf - London**  
We transfer to the airport for our return flight to London.

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Dijon & Lyon

### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
8th - 17th Jun	£5,745	£765

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

Image: The Porta Nigra

# Crete - Introducing the Minoans

An expert-led tour that traverses Crete from East to West



- Discover the lesser-known archaeological remains of Ayia Triada and Mochlos as well as the famous Minoan Palaces
- Explore Aptera, the mythological setting for the battle between the Sirens and the Muses
- Delight in the lovely harbour town of Chania with its charming Venetian architecture

8 DAYS FROM £4,045pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



Crete became a dominant power in the Mediterranean in the 3rd millennium BCE when the people we refer to as Minoans constructed palaces on a scale not known in Europe at the time. This tour which traverses Crete from East to West has it all: stunning archaeology, beautiful coastal villages and towns and dramatic landscapes accompanied by the island's wonderful cuisine.

**Day One | London - Chania**  
Today we fly from London to Chania and transfer to our hotel.

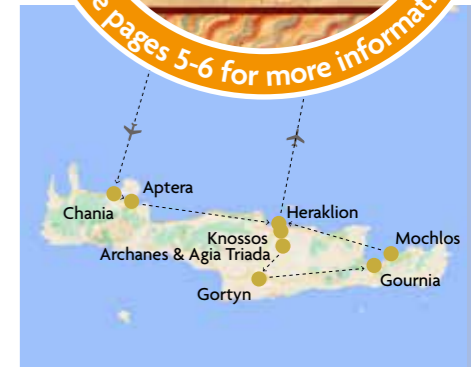
**Day Two | Chania**  
We start the day at the Archaeological Museum where we see a plethora of remains dating from the Neolithic to the Roman periods. In the afternoon, we enjoy a walking tour of its pretty Venetian quarter.

**Day Three | Chania**  
This morning we visit the fascinating Maritime Museum on the western end of the Old Venetian Harbour. It contains exhibits from Greek naval history from the Bronze Age to the Venetian and Ottoman period to the Battle of Crete. We end our day with a visit to the Agia Triada Monastery.

**Day Four | Chania - Aptera - Heraklion**  
Leaving Chania, we visit Aptera, whose stunning and strategic positioning ensured it was powerful from the Minoan to the Hellenistic periods. We continue to Heraklion, stopping en route to explore the excellent new Museum of Eleutherna in Rethymnon which displays finds from Eleutherna, including an archaic statue, the Lady of Eleutherna, reminiscent of the statue of Demeter known as the Lady of Auxerre in the Louvre.

**Day Five | Knossos & Archanes**  
This morning, we visit the world-famous site of Knossos, which boasted a population of 100,000

Image: Knoss Palace



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Dr Rita Roussos**  
A native Athenian, Rita taught Archaeology and Art History at the American University of Athens. She is particularly interested in the place of women in ancient Greece and Rome.



## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Chania & Heraklion

### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
8th - 15th Apr	£4,045	£565

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

To book a tour today visit [andantetravels.co.uk](http://andantetravels.co.uk) or call 01722 705 210



# Wild Thrace

Discover ancient kingdoms across this region



Discover the traces of Roman, Medieval and Ottoman history which remain across the region

Take a short trip across the Thracian sea to the lovely unspoiled islands of Thasos and Samothrace

Explore the Sanctuary of the Great Gods, built to honour fertility deities around 1000 BCE



9 DAYS FROM £4,030pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



East of Thessaloniki are the mountains and plains of Thrace. Its ancient kingdoms were alternately at war and allied with Persians, Greeks and Macedonians. Discover the strategic cities that grew up in the wake of passing conquerors Phillippi, Mesembria with its Romano-Thracian chariot burials, and catch a glimpse of the city of Amphipolis. Thrace's landmark archaeological sites and Byzantine, Medieval and Ottoman monuments add to its rich cultural heritage. This wild land is notable for the peaceful co-existence of Christian and Muslim traditions.

### Day One | London - Thessaloniki - Kavala

We journey to **Kavala**, with an en route visit to the great Athenian colony of **Amphipolis**, site of a battle between Athens and Sparta during the Peloponnesian war where we explore remains of a necropolis, a gymnasium as well as houses dating from the Roman period.

### Day Two | Kavala - Phillippi

Today we explore the **Archaeological Museum in Kavala**, which houses remains from Amphipolis and other ancient sites found nearby. We visit the UNESCO-listed Macedonian and Roman colony of **Phillippi** and explore the forum and well-preserved theatre. Later, we return to Kavala, where we see the **Byzantine Castle**.

### Day Three | Thasos

We make our way to Keramoti port and continue by ferry to the Island of **Thasos**, the most northerly of all Greek islands surrounded by the crystal-clear waters of the Aegean Sea. We spend the day exploring the excavated remains of the classical city which once lay under modern-day Limenas and visit the **Limenas Museum**.

### Day Four | Abdera, Xanthi & Komotini

Take the day to explore the site of ancient **Abdera**, with links to Phoenicians and

important scholars, including the Sophist Protagoras and historian Hecataeus. We continue to **Xanthi**, known for its distinctive period architecture and then end the day with a visit to **Komotini**.

### Day Five | Kavala - Samothrace

On the island of Samothrace, we drive up to the **Chora** set high up on Mount Saos and visit its citadel built by the Galluzi family in the 14th century when Venice controlled large parts of the Aegean. After lunch, we check into our hotel with some free time to relax after our early start or you may wish to join an optional walk in Fonias Gorge.

### Day Six | Samothrace - Alexandroupoli

We explore the famous classical '**Sanctuary of the Gods**', one of the most important religious complexes in Greece, set up in honour of the 'Great Gods'. We visit the small site museum which presents exhibits from the Sanctuary.

### Day Seven | Mesembria & Maroneia

Uncover the ruins at Mesembria, situated on the coast near the mouth of the stream Shabla Dere, now identified as the ancient Greek polis of **Zoni**. Later, visit the **Archaeological Museum** containing more than 1,000 ancient objects excavated from the archaeological sites around Alexandroupoli, Evros and the wider region of Thrace.



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDES

**Dr Christina Hatzimichael-Whitley**  
A tutor in Greek archaeology at the Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning, Christina specialises in Minoan Crete and is Co-Director of the Praisos Survey.



### Day Eight | Didymoteicho & Evros Delta

We travel north to **Didymoteicho** and explore some of the fortifications and remains of Byzantine houses as well as the small church of St Catherine. In the afternoon we take a boat trip on the **Evros**, a river associated with a number of Greek myths.

### Day Nine | Alexandroupoli - Thessaloniki - London

Our tour comes to an end, and we return to Thessaloniki to take our flight back to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Kavala, Samothrace & Alexandroupoli

#### Culinary inclusions

- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
29th Apr - 7th May	£4,030	£485

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

# The Peloponnese

Homer and beyond



Explore the well-preserved Mycenaean Palace of Nestor

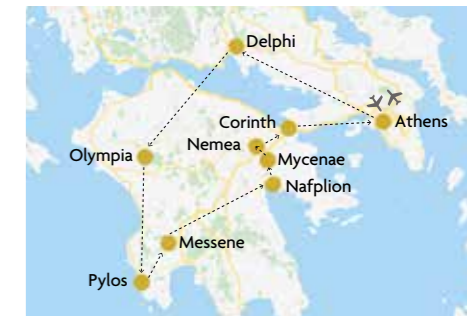
Visit the famous Acropolis of Athens with its unique masterpieces of ancient architecture

Gaze upon the National Archaeological Museum of Athens' galleries, which house the most important collection of ancient Greek art

Wander around the renowned citadel of Mycenae and see the Lion Gate, the grave circles and the Treasure of Atreus

12 DAYS FROM £4,795pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDES

**Dr Rita Roussos**  
A native Athenian, Rita taught archaeology and art history at the American University of Athens.



Embark on a modern-day odyssey to the sites of ancient Greece. Beginning in Athens, we journey as the ancients did into the wild and beautiful Peloponnesian hills, Join our expert guides as they trace the story of Greece from the Bronze Age to Classical glory. A trip for anyone who has ever dreamed of standing at the starting line of the ancient Olympics, debating with Socrates, or following on the footsteps of Hercules.

### Day One | London - Athens

We fly to Athens and transfer to our hotel in the Plaka.

### Day Two | Athens

We discover ancient **Athens**. According to legend, the city was founded by King Theseus, best known for his minotaur-slaying heroics in Crete. We climb to the **Acropolis** to visit the **Parthenon**, **Theatre of Dionysus**, and **Temple of Athena**, then spend time in the **Acropolis Museum**.

### Day Three | Athens - Delphi

We walk through the sites of the **Agora**, the political and commercial heart of ancient Athens where Socrates stood and then visit the **Museum of the Ancient Agora**, housed in the reconstructed Stoa of Attalos. Afterwards, we drive through the Peloponnesian hills to our hotel at Delphi.

### Day Four | Delphi - Olympia

Spend a day at the **Panhellenic Sanctuary at Delphi**. The oracle was given by a priestess called the Pythia who sat on a tripod over a chasm in the inner sanctum and, inhaling the vapours from it, uttered prophecies. Later, we cross the Rion-Antirion bridge and travel to the Peloponnese peninsula at Olympia.

### Day Five | Olympia

Explore **Olympia**, home of the first and greatest Panhellenic Games and the most important religious centre in the 8th century BC and find temples such as the **Pelopion**, once the alleged tomb of Pelops.

### Day Six | Olympia - Pylos

We start the day by visiting the **Castle of Pylos Nioakastro**, a fortress built by the Turks on the hill above Pylos. The fortress provides magnificent

views over Navarino bay and the town of Pylos. We head on to the **Palace of Nestor**, mentioned in Homer's writings as home of the oldest and wisest among the Greeks fighting at Troy. The palace is the best-preserved Mycenaean palatial structure excavated and includes reception areas, baths, storerooms and workshops.

### Day Seven | Pylos - Messene - Nafplion

We spend the morning in **Messene**, one of the most beautiful ancient cities in Greece and enjoy the **Archaeological Museum of Ancient Messene**. After lunch, we make our way towards Nafplion

### Day Eight | Nafplion & Epidaurus

This morning we journey to the lovely town of **Nafplion** where we visit the **Archaeological Museum** before visiting the ancient site of **Epidaurus**, a celebrated centre of healing in the ancient world.

### Day Nine | Nafplion - Mycenae

We explore the great Bronze Age hilltop site of **Mycenae** and then wander into the city with its Cyclopean walls through the famous **Lion Gate** and view the archaeological remains of the Acropolis.

### Day Ten | Nemea - Tiryns

This morning, we visit the site of **Nemea** where, according to legend, Heracles fought the Nemean Lion before exploring the **Temple of Zeus**. We continue to the archaeological site of **Tiryns**, a Mycenaean hillfort said to have been the mythical birthplace of Heracles.

### Day Eleven | Corinth - Athens

We drive to **Corinth**, which owes its prosperity to the isthmus that joins the Peloponnese to the mainland. Upon arrival in Athens, we view

the **National Archaeological Museum** with its fantastic collections.

### Day Twelve | Athens - London

Our Peloponnesian odyssey comes to an end. We bid farewell to the city of Athens and fly back to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Delphi, Olympia, Pylos, Nafplion & Athens

#### Culinary inclusions

- 11 breakfasts, 10 lunches & 10 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
6th - 17th May	£5,045	£4795

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

# Crete & Santorini

Rise and fall of the Minoan civilisation



Tick the mighty Palace of Knossos off your archaeological wish-list

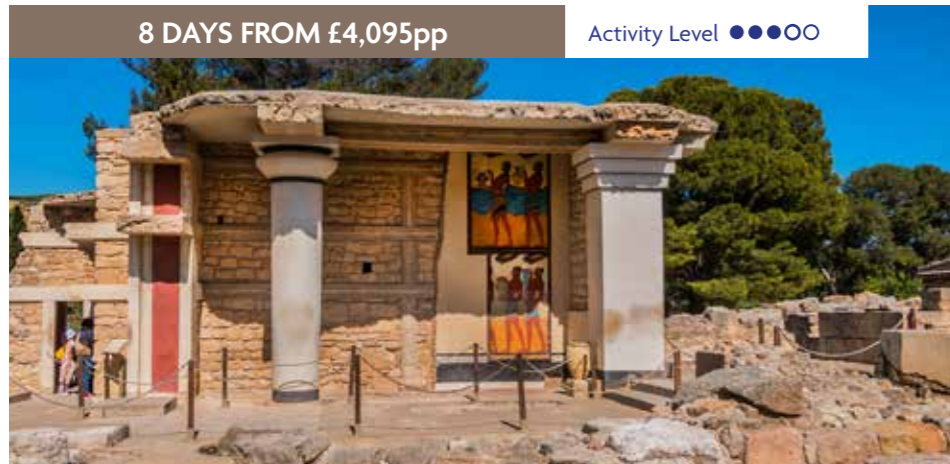
Explore the city of Akrotiri – the ‘Pompeii of the Aegean’ – and admire the fascinating frescoes on display in the museum

Take a boat trip to the island of Spinalonga, a leper colony that was in use right up until the 60s, where we will explore the abandoned buildings and its history

Visit the vast Archaeological Museum in Heraklion and view its fascinating collections

8 DAYS FROM £4,095pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



The Minoans are best known for their incredible labyrinthine palaces - the greatest of which, located at Knossos, was supposedly where Theseus slew the Minotaur. Our journey across these two beautiful islands will demonstrate the impressive architectural and artistic skills of this Bronze Age civilisation. We begin on the stunning island of Santorini, buried suddenly during the cataclysmic eruption of Thera, which signalled the beginning of the end of Minoan civilisation. In Crete, we continue to trace the story of the Minoans, whose writing, organisation and ambition had a profound influence on the development of ancient Greece - and, thus, the western world.

### Day One | London - Santorini

We depart from London and fly to Santorini and transfer to our hotel, where we stay for two nights.

### Day Two | Fira & Akrotiri

Our day begins at the **Prehistoric Museum in Fira**, home to dazzling wall paintings from the Minoan buildings at Akrotiri and a large number of artefacts found in various island excavations. This afternoon, we continue to **Akrotiri** itself. Destroyed by a catastrophic volcanic eruption in around 1500 BC and buried in ash, the city is reminiscent of Pompeii and has retained some impressively well-preserved houses.

### Day Three | Thera - Heraklion

After breakfast, we journey up winding roads to the ancient city of **Thera**, located on a ridge of Messavouno Mountain, some 360 metres above sea level. The site has been under excavation since 1904, and findings from the city have contributed immensely to our understanding of Minoan culture and history. We then visit **Panagia Episkopi**, a Byzantine cathedral containing many beautiful frescoes, before a catamaran ride takes us to our next destination: historic Heraklion.

### Day Four | Palace of Knossos & Vathypetro

We begin with a trip to the world-renowned **Palace of Knossos**, a majestic complex erected in Greece's Bronze Age, and the largest Bronze Age site in the country. The intricate, multi-storeyed layout of the palace has led to its connection with numerous myths and legends, including that of the Minotaur and the labyrinth. Later, we visit two important Museums, the Archaeological Museum of Archanes

which displays collections of Minoan pottery and stone vessels found during excavations at Fourni Necropolis, Anemospilia, and Archanes and the exceptional **Heraklion Museum**, with its exquisite jewellery and brightly-coloured wall paintings.

### Day Five | Palace of Phaistos - Gortyn

We visit **Ayia Triada**, a grand but ruinous Bronze Age villa before we travel to the magnificent **Palace of Phaistos**. Famous finds here include thousands of documents, some inscribed with the earliest known occurrence of the still undeciphered writing of the Minoans – a script also known as ‘Linear A’. We explore the Greco-Roman site of **Gortyn** in the verdant Messara Valley, a gem of the archaeological world since its discovery in 1884. Our time here includes a visit to the new Archaeological Museum of Messara.

### Day Six | Palace of Malia - Gournia

Our day starts with a trip to the Palace of Malia, a huge Minoan complex just north of the Lasithi Mountains. We then proceed to the well-preserved late Minoan town of **Gournia**, one of the few sites in the region to have been fully excavated. The remains of Gournia cluster around cobbled streets on the side of a hill and are crowned by the now-ruined palace. This afternoon we have the option of a boat trip to the haunting and evocative island of **Spinalonga**, the location of a former leper colony, which was still in use until 1962.

### Day Seven | Mochlos

This morning, we have the option to journey by fishing boat across the turquoise Gulf of Mirabello to the tiny island of **Mochlos**, on which an

### YOUR EXPERT GUIDES

**Dr Christina Hatzimichael-Whitley**  
A tutor in Greek archaeology at the Cardiff Centre for Lifelong Learning, Christina specialises in Minoan Crete and is Co-Director of the Praisos Survey.



important Minoan town once stood – a hub of trade and industry.

### Day Eight | Sissi - Heraklion - London

Before we make our journey to the airport, we drive to stunning **Sissi** to visit the excavations on Kephali Hill, where evidence for Early Minoan mortuary activity has been found near Crete's latest Minoan palace to be discovered.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Santorini, Heraklion & Elounda

#### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 6 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db Share	SS
20th - 27th May	£4,395	£4,095 £660

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

# The Cyclades

Explore sacred islands and sprawling ruins



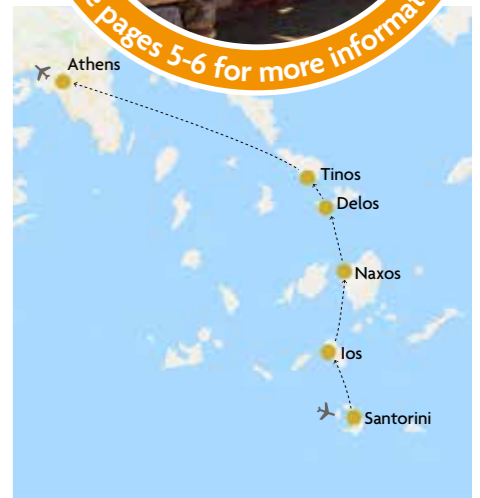
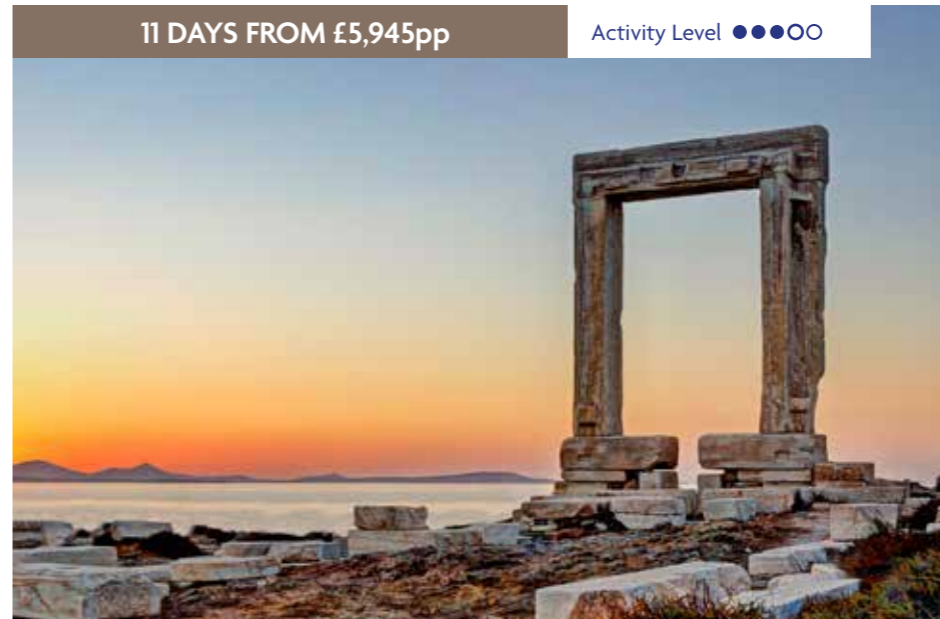
Sail by private charter to Delos and spend the day exploring one of the most important sites in Greece

Visit the spectacular prehistoric settlement of Skarkos and ‘Homer’s’ tomb on the delightful island of Ios

Admire the sleeping giants of Naxos, the Flerio Kourous, scattered throughout this beautiful Aegean landscape

11 DAYS FROM £5,945pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



Of all the Greek islands scattered over the Aegean Sea, the Cyclades have the most evocative mythology. Travelling by land and crossing by ferry, discover atmospheric archaeological sites on these fascinating islands from beautiful Delos, the legendary birthplace of Apollo, to unassuming Tinos, well off the tourist radar.

### Day One | London - Santorini

We fly from London to Santorini and transfer to our hotel.

### Day Two | Thera & Akrotiri

We visit the ancient classical city of **Thera**, constituting of buildings, markets, theatre, baths, temples, private residences and a complete road network with sewage system. After, we continue to **Akrotiri**, the once well-connected Minoan port town, which is now covered by a state-of-the-art bioclimatic roof to protect fragile buildings and frescoes. Afterwards we visit the **Prehistoric Museum**, home to a host of treasures.

### Day Three | Santorini - Ios

We take the ferry to the hilly island of Ios, boasting remains from Minoan, Mycenaean, Phoenician, Roman and Byzantine periods. We discover the small **Archaeological Museum** before checking in to our hotel.

### Day Four | Ios

This morning we explore the remains of the **Paleokastro**, built by the Venetians in the 15th century and once a substantial fort. We continue to **Homer's tomb** – inscriptions, coins and some texts testify that Ios was where the great poet was laid to rest. After lunch we visit the well-preserved **Skarkos**, where we see evidence of organised urban planning, a modern system of rainwater disposal as well as a sewage system.

### Day Five | Ios - Naxos

We cross to **Naxos**, the largest island in the

archipelago and renowned for its production of apricots, honey, olives and the local small potatoes. In the afternoon, we visit the ruins of the Sanctuary of Iria, dedicated to the god Dionysus.

### Day Six | Naxos

Spending the day on Naxos, we discover the 6th century **Sanctuary of Apollo and Demeter**. We continue to Koronos for lunch and onwards to the Flerio area where we see the two oversized but incomplete stone figures (Kourai).

### Day Seven | Delos

Today we take our private boat to the UNESCO World Heritage site of **Delos**, believed to be the birthplace of Apollo. We spend a full day exploring the temples, houses and agorae of this sacred island.

### Day Eight | Naxos - Tinos

On our last morning in Naxos, we visit the **Archaeological Museum**, housed in a wonderful 17th century Venetian house and boasting a fantastic collection of Early Cycladic marble figurines. Later we catch our ferry to **Tinos**, a mountainous island famous for its marble and distinctive architecture.

### Day Nine | Tinos

Today we visit the **Archaeological Museum** which includes finds from excavations from the **Sanctuary of Poseidon**, before exploring the sanctuary itself. We end the day at Pyrgos Museum, dedicated to the local history of marble and ancient sculpting techniques.

### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Dr Rita Roussos**  
A native Athenian, Rita taught Archaeology and Art History at the American University of Athens.



### Day Ten | Tinos - Athens

We take the ferry to Rafina and continue to the beautiful Temple of Poseidon. Later we transfer to Athens for our final night in Greece.

### Day Eleven | Athens - London

We transfer to Athens airport for our return flight.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Santorini, Ios, Naxos, Tinos & Athens

#### Culinary inclusions

- 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches & 10 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db Share	SS
22nd May - 1st Jun	£5,945	£890

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

# Antiquity of the Aegean Cruise

Discover Minoan and Hellenic Gems



- Explore the Athenian Acropolis, the sanctuary in the heart of Athens, with the iconic Erechtheum and Parthenon
- Gaze at the Royal Tombs in Vergina including that of Philip II, complete with stunning frescos and gold grave goods
- Wander through the stunning city of Ephesus, famed for its rich architecture, including the Library of Celsus in Ephesus
- Visit the Minoan Palace of Knossos, the centre of Europe's oldest civilisation



10 DAYS FROM £4,745pp

Activity Level ●●●○○

The Aegean Sea has been a backdrop for much mythology and history, spanning from the Bronze Age through the Minoan and Mycenaean civilizations, to Classical Greece, Ancient Rome, and onward into the Byzantine era.

## Day One | London - Athens

We fly into the Athens and make our way to our hotel.

## Day Two | Athens

We take a walking tour of Athens before visiting the **Acropolis**, which houses the **Parthenon**. We also see the beautiful Ionic temple of Athena Nike, enjoy lunch in the bustling area of Plaka and discover the Acropolis Museum.

## Day Three | Athens

Highlights today include the **Agora**, where legal trials were held, and the **Agora Museum**. Later, we board Celestyal Journey and set sail for Thessaloniki.

## Day Four | Thessaloniki

We join an excursion to visit the Royal Tombs at Aegae, modern Vergina. Here, in the company of our Andante Guide Lecturer, we explore the extraordinary royal tombs, including the tomb of Philip II, the father of Alexander, which includes his shield and breastplate, as well as the gold casket which bears his remains and gold diadems.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** Today we explore the important remains of Thessaloniki, a UNESCO world heritage site. After dining on board, we set sail for Ephesus.

## Day Five | Kusadasi (Ephesus)

We arrive in Kusadasi and take an excursion to **Ephesus**, famed for its gigantic temple and sanctuary of Diana/Artemis plus the Library of Celsus. In the evening, we board the ship to sail on toward Crete.

## Day Six | Heraklion

We awake in the beautiful Cretan city of Heraklion and visit neighbouring **Knossos** to explore the wondrous Minoan remains and colourful frescoes

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** This afternoon, we take in the treasures of the **Archaeological Museum**. Back on board, we set sail onward to Santorini.

## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Miranda Spitha

Miranda studied archaeology in Italy and is from Crete, so is very knowledgeable about history and contemporary life in Greece.



## Day Seven | Santorini

The ship is moored in spectacular Santorini, where the day is spent exploring the remains of the ancient island. In the late evening, we sail towards Mykonos.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** Visit the Prehistoric Museum in Fira, home to dazzling wall paintings from the Minoan buildings at Akrotiri, where we also visit.

## Day Eight | Mykonos (Delos)

We arrive in Mykonos and spend the day exploring Delos, the birthplace of Apollo and Artemis. In the late evening our ship sets sail for Milos.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We explore the sanctuary, the **Terrace of the Lions**, the theatre, **Doric temples** and the remains of several houses, including the better-preserved ones of Dionysus and of Cleopatra.

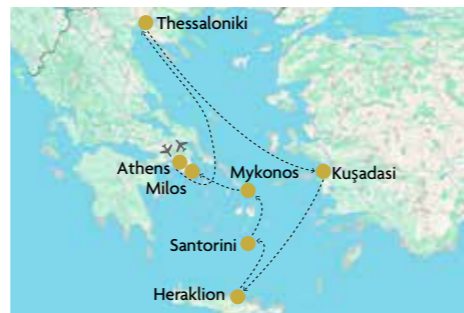
## Day Nine | Milos

We arrive at the beautiful island of Milos and sail back to Athens in the evening.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We venture to the important Bronze Age site of **Phylakopi**, explore the Hellenistic and Roman remains at **Klima**, discover the **Paleochristian Catacombs** and later visit the Archaeological Museum, famous for its 14th century BC terracotta statue.

## Day Ten | Athens - London

We arrive back in Athens. After disembarking we transfer to the airport for our return flight to London.



## Celestyal Journey

Celestyal Journey is a medium sized ship, comparable to a good 3\* hotel. Comprising of 14 decks with 630 cabins and suites located across 5 of them, the remaining decks offer a wealth of facilities and amenities. The restaurants included in our cruise package are The Taverna which is buffet style and the Thalassa Restaurant which is a la carte. There are plenty of bars and lounges on board to relax in and reflect on the day, including the Blue Bar and Lounge, the Martini Piano Bar and Lounges and the Ocean Bar and Lounge. The main area for entertainment is in the Ampitheatre Show Lounge. Other facilities include a casino, small shops, a gym, a health & beauty spa, Jacuzzi, sauna and relaxation room. Wi-fi is payable onboard.

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Exclusive Andante excursions with entry to all sites as stated in the itinerary<sup>1</sup>
- Excursion to Ephesus with Celestyal, shared with other passengers
- Field Notes
- All taxes (including port taxes) & gratuities

## Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

## Accommodation

- 2 nights in an Athens hotel & 7 nights cruise aboard Celestyal Journey

## Culinary inclusions

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- At hotel: water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner
- Celestyal Journey: drinks served with meals are teas, coffee, soft drinks, beers and house wines

<sup>1</sup>Premium branded drinks at own cost

<sup>1</sup>Please note that on some excursions we share the transport with other cruise passengers to and from a site or venue.

## Dates & prices per person

29th May - 7th June

	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
Exterior Cosmos Cabin with window on Decks 5 or 9	£4,745	£570

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

# The Island of Sardinia

Neolithic, Nuragic and Punic mysteries of this Mediterranean island



- Visit the highest Bronze Age structure in the Mediterranean at the Nuragic site of Su Nuraxi at Barumini
- Travel in 4x4s to visit off the beaten track sites such as the megalithic chamber tomb at S'Ena e Thomes and the Nuragic complex of Sa Sedda 'e Sos Carros
- Examine the island's Phoenician past at Tharros and Sulcis, including mysterious tophets, children's cemeteries



9 DAYS FROM £5,045pp

Activity Level ●●●○○

Sardinia offers one of the richest and most fascinating standing archaeological repertoires in Europe. Known to the Greeks as Sandaliotis ("Sandal", due to its shape), or Ichnoussa ("Stepping stone"), the island has seen Phoenicians, Greeks, Carthaginians, Romans, Arabs and Catalonians come and go. Before them, the mysterious Nuraghi people left an astonishing plethora of wonderful archaeology.

## Day One | London - Alghero

Today we fly from London to the wonderful Catalan city of Alghero. After settling down in the hotel, if there is time, we will have an orientation walk around the city before dinner.

## Day Two | Monte d'Accoddi & Palmavera

This morning we make our way to one of the oldest and most interesting sites in our tour, the pyramid complex at **Monte d'Accoddi**. After lunch, we explore **Palmavera**, the first of our Nuragic sites built by a culture which thrived in the Bronze and Iron Ages.

## Day Three | Alghero - Su Gologone

We leave Alghero this morning and head east towards Oliena, stopping during the morning at **Santu Antine**. We proceed off the beaten track to **Romanzesu-Poddi Arvu**, another Bronze Age Nuragic site which is notable for its hundred-odd huts and public structures and includes a mysterious labyrinthine edifice and temples. For our last site of the day, we explore the little-known National Archaeological Museum Giorgio Asprone in Nuoro.

## Day Four | Su Gologone

Today we venture off the beaten track in 4x4s to visit breathtaking sites which shed insights into the extraordinary Sardinian Bronze Age. Including the monumental **Giants' graves of S'Ena e Thomes, Su Tempiesu and Sa Sedda 'e Sos Carros** where we see well-preserved stone huts and workshops, as well as a circular sanctuary. After an adventurous day, we return to our picturesque hotel.

## Day Five | Su Gologone - Oristano

This morning we travel west to the 4th millennium necropolis at **Sas Concas** where we see a cluster of twenty Domus de janas, or "fairies' houses" – tombs carved out of the rock to resemble their houses. We proceed to the Bronze Age Nuragic

complex of **Tamuli** and then end the day at another tantalizing religious site, the sacred well at **Santa Cristina**, which is very well preserved with staggeringly precise ashlar masonry walls leading to a subterranean chamber with a corbelled roof which contained water, seemingly used for religious rites.

## Day Six | Oristano - Baia di Nora

Traversing the enchanting Sardinian landscape, we make our way south to **Tharros**, where we explore the Tophet and consider whether Phoenicians these necropoleis only included children's burials because children were seen differently, or whether children were sacrificed. This discussion will continue with our visit to the **Civic Archaeological Museum "Giovanni Marongiu" of Cabras**, where we see artefacts from Tharros. We end the day with a visit to the **National Archaeological Museum at Cagliari**.

## Day Seven | Nora

Waking up in delightful Nora, we spend the morning exploring the **archaeological site of Nora** where we see well-preserved remains of buildings we would typically see in a town from the Roman period, including a bath complex, a theatre and macellum. In the afternoon, we have free time in Nora to unwind on the beach or relax in the hotel.

## Day Eight | Sulcis & Sant'Antioco

Our final full day is dedicated to Phoenician sites near Nora, starting with the ancient necropolis at **Monte Sirai**. In the afternoon, we visit the Phoenician/Roman site of Sulky or Sulcis on the beautiful island of **Sant'Antioco**, founded in the 8th century, where we explore the remains of housing and a republican Roman temple with an attractive opus signinum floor, as well as a series of rock-cut tombs, some of which are painted. We close the day with a visit to the **Ferruccio Barreca Archaeological**



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDES

Farès K Moussa

Specialising in religious art and artistic practice, Farès has both written and researched on Romans and Phoenicians in Tunisia, Libya, Morocco and Sardinia, as well as on the subject of prehistoric rock art.



**Museum** which sheds light on this important site, including its delicate jewellery and pottery. On our last night, we will have a celebratory dinner at our lovely hotel.

## Day Nine | Cagliari - London

Time permitting, we may have a final walk along the beach before we return home, setting off from Nora to the Sardinia's capital, Cagliari, from where we take our flight to London.

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

## Travel & Accommodation

- Return flights from London & all local transport

## Accommodation

- Accommodation in Alghero, Su Gologone, Oristano & Baia di Nora

## Culinary inclusions

- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches & 8 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

## Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
15th - 23rd Apr	£5,295	£5,045 £635

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

# Rome

The Eternal City



Explore the underground ruins of Nero's infamous Golden House, a revolution in architecture and luxurious design

Walk along the Appian Way, visiting the Villa of the Quintili and the Circus of Maxentius

Discover two important sites outside the city centre – the port of Ostia and Hadrian's Palace at Tivoli



See pages 5-6 for more information



Discover the extraordinary cave site of Fumane, one of the major prehistoric archaeological sites in Europe

Enjoy the picture-perfect setting and cobalt blue waters of Lake Garda, Italy's largest lake

Explore the beautiful cities of Verona and Vicenza, Padua and Mantua and their plethora of UNESCO World Heritage Sites



See pages 5-6 for more information

7 DAYS FROM £4,240pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDES

Dr Jamie Sewell

An author of books and articles on the archaeology of towns in Hellenistic Italy, Jamie has 15 years' worth of experience supervising excavations in Britain, Germany, Italy and Romania.



8 DAYS FROM £3,160pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Dr Eireann Marshall

An Honorary Research Fellow for the Open University, Eireann has led many Andante tours. She won the Top History and Culture Guide prize at Wanderlust magazine's 2019 World Guide Awards and has also published a variety of articles on Roman North Africa.



Rome is one of the most charismatic and engaging of the great cities of the world and this tour is the perfect introduction to the 'Eternal City' in the company of archaeologist and historians who will bring to life the triumphs, tragedies and political intrigue that characterised the Roman Empire. We stay at the privately owned Albergo Santa Chiara in the very heart of the ancient city, the perfect base for exploring Rome.

#### Day One | London - Rome

We fly to Rome and transfer to our hotel in the heart of the city.

#### Day Two | Forum & Colosseum

This morning, we start at the **Imperial Fora** with the famous monument of **Trajan's Column** and proceed from there through the **Forum Romanum**. We continue to the Palatine to visit the ruins of the Imperial palaces and in the afternoon, we will explore the **Colosseum**, the iconic Flavian Amphitheatre – the largest of its type ever constructed. We end the day at the adjacent decorative **Arch of Constantine**.

#### Day Three | The Appian Way

Today we drive to the **Appian Way** and visit some of the villas of the senatorial aristocracy found there. We proceed to the equally extensive **Villa of the Emperor Maxentius** built as a dynastic centre for his family. In the afternoon we will visit another huge imperial project, the **Baths of Caracalla**, capable of accommodating thousands at a time.

#### Day Four | Domus Aurea & Celian Hill

This morning we visit the legendary **Golden House** which Emperor Nero built after the great fire of Rome. We continue to the extraordinary church of **San Clemente** to discover its underground surprises and the **Domus Romane Del Celio**, Roman houses which date from the 2nd century. Later we also visit the **Parco Archeologico del Celio**.

#### Day Five | Tivoli

We leave the city and make the short drive to **Tivoli** where the Emperor Hadrian chose to build his palace. Hadrian's Villa which sprawls across the rolling countryside at the foot of the hills below the town of Tivoli. We visit the town this afternoon and pay a visit to the great 16th-century **Villa D'Este**. Built by Cardinal Ippolito D'Este, the son of Lucrezia Borgia and a major figure in the church politics of the era.

#### Day Six | Field Of Mars & Ara Pacis

This morning we take a walk through part of the **Field of Mars**, originally an open area lying just outside Rome's earliest defences. Later we visit the **Ara Pacis**, an altar commissioned by the Roman Senate to honour the return of Augustus after his campaigns in Gaul. The afternoon is free to spend as you wish.

#### Day Seven | Rome - London

On our final day, we shall leave Rome and travel to **Ostia Antica**, the ancient harbour city of Rome close to the mouth of the Tiber. Originally Rome's first colony, it became a thriving port, handling the transshipment of goods and foodstuffs from sea-going vessels to river barges in new harbours provided by Claudius and Trajan. From Ostia, we continue to the airport for our afternoon flight home.



### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in the Albergo Santa Chiara

#### Culinary inclusions

- 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches & 6 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
25th Apr - 1st May	£4,240	£395

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

From Roman Province to Doge Republic, the Veneto has a long and illustrious history. We take a closer look at the intriguing area around Lake Garda and explore a truly unique mix of archaeology, art and architecture. From a prehistoric cave site adjacent to a 15th century 'Roman' villa, to a medieval monastery perched on the steps of an ancient Roman theatre, there is a great deal to unpick here. Visiting in the quieter months of spring and early autumn, we enjoy the undulating landscapes of vineyards and olive groves which surround the southern shores of Lake Garda and explore the pretty piazzas, medieval market places and tangled streets of Verona, Vicenza, Mantua and Padua. We're sure this tour will hold your imagination and to cap it all, we will be in the region of the Valpolicella wine villas – noted for their products and histories.

#### Day One | London - Verona - Sirmione

We arrive in Verona and transfer to our hotel in Sirmione, a picturesque medieval town perched on the tip of a narrow peninsula at the edge of Lake Garda.

#### Day Two | Desenzano

Discover **Desenzano Roman Villa** with its coloured figurative mosaic floors depicting various scenes of cupids, maenads and satyrs; wild beasts and images of the four seasons. We take the train to the **Villa Catullus**, the largest and most complete Roman villa in northern Italy.

#### Day Three | Verona

**Verona** is a city immortalised by Shakespeare and blessed with an abundance of Roman and medieval remains reflecting the evolution of this fortified town. We shall explore the core of the Roman town, its city gate, Porta Borsari, and the magnificent amphitheatre, and then visit the **Archaeological Museum**.

#### Day Four | Mantua

We spend our day in **Mantua**, a gem of Italian art and architecture often overlooked by unenlightened visitors to the region. It is home to the **Palazzo Ducale**, the largest residence in Italy after the Vatican.

#### Day Five | Fumane & Villa della Torre

We explore the cave of **Fumane** contains traces of Neanderthal man and evidence of habitation by modern Homo sapiens, including sharpened flints, bones and decorations made from seashells. Afterwards, we visit nearby **Villa della Torre**, a beautiful villa by architect Giulio Romano, where we enjoy a wine-tasting.

#### Day Six | Vicenza

Spend the day in **Vicenza**: a UNESCO World Heritage site and archetypical ideal of the Renaissance and Baroque eras. This jewel of a place is full of galleries, palaces and churches and is noted for the works of the great architect Andrea Palladio and we visit his amazing villa at **La Rotunda**.

#### Day Seven | Padua

Our final visit of the tour is to **Padua**, which according to tradition going back at least to Virgil's Aeneid, was founded in 1183 BCE by the Trojan prince Antenor. Our visits will include the Scrovegni chapel, with its priceless frescoes by Giotto, the Civic Museum, located in the cloister of the former Eremitani monastery, the Palazzo del Bo and the Basilica of St. Anthony and the baptistry.

#### Day Eight | Sirmione - Verona - London

We return to the airport in Verona for our flight back to the UK.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in the Hotel Continental Thermae and Spa, Sirmione

#### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
28th Apr - 5th May	£3,510	£3,160 £445

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

# The Samnites

War and peace in the ancient Apennines



Visit the theatre and sanctuary at Pietrabbondante, the Samnite religious and political centre in the mountains of Molise

Explore the ancient site of Saepinum with an impressive theatre, which was developed to pasture flocks sent to Rome, something still done to this day

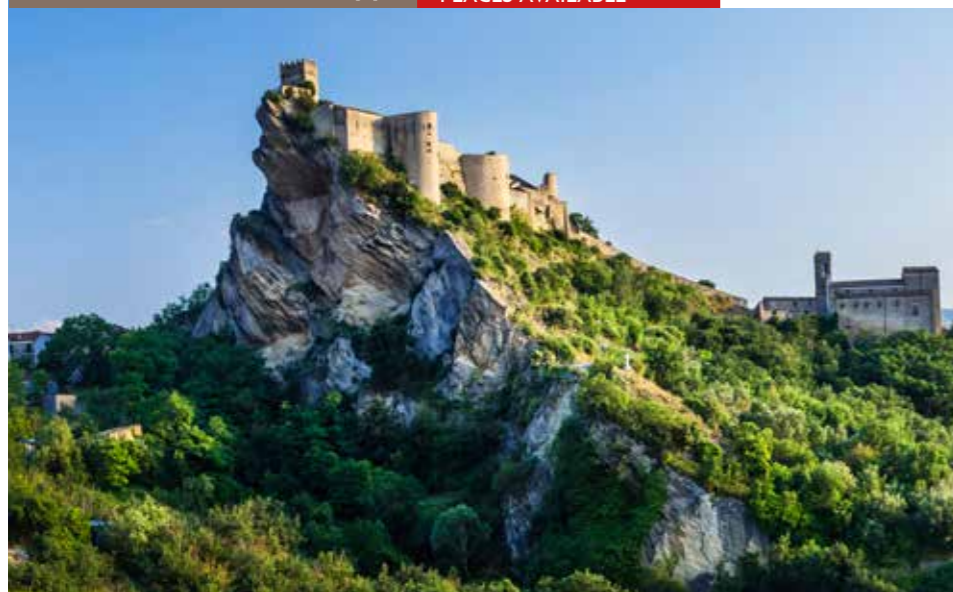
Admire the massive abbey at San Vincenzo al Volturno, established by Charlemagne

Examine the stunning UNESCO-listed Carolingian Oratory of San Pellegrino with its priceless frescoes

7 DAYS FROM £3,030pp

£0 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT  
PLACES AVAILABLE

Activity Level ●●●○○



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Oliver Gilkes

One of our longest-standing Guide Lecturers, Oliver has worked as a field and museum archaeologist in the UK, Albania and Italy. Oliver is still involved in projects in Albania and is considered one of just a handful of experts on Albanian archaeology in the UK.



For three hundred years the hardy peoples of central Italy were Rome's bitterest enemies. Rome fought three wars against the tenacious mountaineers who had a habit of humiliating Roman generals. The Samnite Wars were fundamental for establishing Rome's control over the Italian peninsula, as well as developing Roman warfare. As an indication of this, the Via Appia was created because of the Samnite Wars, in order to facilitate troop movements. In later centuries, the homeland of the Samnites was vital for feeding the great cities of north and south. Set amongst spectacular mountains, ancient cities, castles and abbeys this tour reaches to the heart of Italy and considers early Italians who were so important for establishing and maintain the might of Rome.

### Day One | London - Rome - Venafrò

We travel to the ancient site of **Venafrò** on the River Volturno, famous for its olive groves, and explore the remains of its amphitheatre, which once held 15,000 spectators.

### Day Two | Venafrò - Castelpetroso

The day starts with a visit to the **Santa Chiara National Archaeological Museum** which houses finds from Venafrum and the abbey of San Vincenzo. We discover the **Pandone Castle**, originally built in the 10th century, on the remains of earlier fortifications and redecorated in the Renaissance and then visit San Vincenzo al Volturno.

### Day Three | Isernia & Saepinum

We explore **Isernia**, a strategic Samnite city renamed Aesernia after its seizure by Rome, then visit the **National Museum of the Paleolithic**, which displays the amazing Palaeolithic finds from the area. We continue to the **Cathedral** and the **Civic Museum of Memory and History** before driving onwards to **Saepinum**.

### Day Four | Pietrabbondante & Schiavi di Abruzzo

We drive to **Agnone**, famed for its bronze casting tradition and the location of a Papal bell foundry that has been making bells for generations and then move on to **Pietrabbondante** to explore

the excavated remains of the ritual sanctuary of the Pentri tribe. Later we drive to **Schiavi di Abruzzo** where we see another mountain sanctuary which boasts two well-preserved and reconstructed temples.

### Day Five | Castelpetroso - Silvi Marina

Today we venture into the Abruzzi mountains to **Ivanum**, a market town established for the ancient shepherds of the uplands. We cross the Sangro River to the **Rocca Scalegna** and visit the Angevin castle, which was built during its conflict with the Aragonese. We then head to **Chieti** to visit the **National Museum Villa Frigerj** whose highlights include the extraordinary **Capestrano Warrior**.

### Day Six | Silvi Marina - L'Aquila

The day starts in **Sulmona**, where we visit the sanctuary of **Hercules Curino**, one of the most important ancient shrines of Abruzzo before we proceed to the UNESCO-listed Oratory of San Pellegrino in **Bominaco**, a Benedictine Carolingian chapel. We then visit **Fossa**, where a unique Samnite tumulus cemetery is criss-crossed with rows of standing stones.

### Day Seven | L'Aquila - Aminternum - London

On our last day, we pay a quick visit to **L'Aquila**. Here we visit the famous fountain of the 99 spouts, gifted to the city by Emperor Frederick II. Then on

to **Aminternum**, a substantial Roman city whose remains include a theatre and amphitheatre. After lunch we proceed to Rome for our flight home.

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Venafrò, Castelpetroso, Silvi Marina, L'Aquila

### Culinary inclusions

- 6 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 6 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
30th Apr - 6th May	£3,380	£3,030 £245 £0

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

# Northern Adriatic Cruise

Exploring historic ports and coastal gems in Italy, Slovenia & Croatia

NEW  
FOR 2025



Enjoy four nights in the heart of Venice and take time to experience and appreciate this unique city of islands

Discover Pula with its staggering collection of Roman ruins, including its impressive amphitheatre and stunning Temple of Augustus

View the Roman ruins in the elegant city of Trieste, including a stunning theatre and the remains of a forum

Please call or visit our website for prices

Activity Level ●●●○○



This is a lovely maritime journey which explores the historic ports and coastal gems of the northern Adriatic. We begin in Venice, a maritime republic for almost 1,000 years which has given us a staggering collection of art, architecture and history in a truly evocative setting. We spend three days exploring this wonderful city visiting its world-renowned monuments as well as others lesser known. From here, our cruise heads east to Slovenia's charming port of Koper, with its Venetian-influenced Old Town and nearby salt pans and then curves south along Croatia's Istrian coast to Opatija, an elegant Habsburg-era resort town known for its Belle Époque villas and seaside promenade. Further down the Istrian peninsula lies Pula, home to one of the world's best-preserved Roman amphitheatres. We return to Venice via Ravenna, a city renowned for its spectacular Byzantine mosaics and UNESCO World Heritage sites. Each port combines unique historical significance with distinctive local culture.

### Day One | London - Venice

We fly from London to Venice and take a water taxi to our hotel.

### Day Two | Venice

We start our day with a walk in the heart of Venice - San Marco, the architectural reflection of Venice's entire. Later we explore the Doge's and two sites associated with Vivaldi - the Chiesa della Pietà and the Chiesa San Giovanni in Bragora. We end our day with an evening visit to Basilica San Marco.

### Day Three | Venice

This morning we take a vaporetto to the oldest and most famous bridge across the Grand Canal in Venice: the Rialto. From here we walk to the little-known Casino Venier, we will also visit the Ca d'Oro. Later we discover Chiesa della Madonna dell'Orto and visit the Venetian Ghetto.

### Day Four | Venice

Our ship stays moored in Venice today as we further explore the city.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** Today we have more wonderful Venetian sites to explore. We return to the Castello district with a visit to Chiesa San Zaccaria, then visit the wonderful Palazzo Grimani, and the Basilica Santi Giovanni e Paolo Venetian Gothic church. This afternoon we take the vaporetto down the Grand Canal to the Basilica of the Frari, and visit the nearby Scuola Grande di San Rocco, rightly seen as Tintoretto's masterpiece.

### Day Five | Venice - Koper

We set sail this morning and enjoy a leisurely morning travelling to Koper. We arrive late morning and moor for the night.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We drive to Trieste, the capital of Friuli on the border with Slovenia. We discover the well-preserved Roman theatre and the Cattedrale di San Giusto, and explore the Museo Winklemann named after famous archaeologist killed in Trieste and its collection of archaeological remains.

### Day Six | Koper - Piran

Leaving Koper in the early hours of the morning, we sail to Piran, arriving in time for breakfast.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We drive to the lovely town of Poreč, situated on the western side of the Istrian peninsula. We start at Marafor Square, then make our way to beautiful Euphrasian Basilica in a complex that includes baptistery and bell tower. Returning to Piran in the afternoon we enjoy a guided walk around this charming medieval town.

### Day Seven | Opatija - Pula

Our ship arrives in Opatija early this morning and moors here for the day before sailing overnight to Pula.

**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We drive to Rijeka a port city which sits at the head of the Kvarner Gulf where the Adriatic meets the mountains. Here, situated on the hillside above the city, we discover Trsat Castle which was originally built by the Frankopan family.

## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Dr Eireann Marshall

An Honorary Research Fellow for the Open University, Eireann has led many Andante tours.



### Day Eight | Pula - Ravenna

Arriving in time for breakfast, the ship moors in Pula for the day. Later we will sail overnight to Ravenna  
**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** 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. We proceed to the Roman forum where we see the Temple of Augustus.

### Day Nine | Ravenna - Venice

Arriving in Ravenna at breakfast time, the ship will moor for the day returning to Venice overnight.  
**Exclusive Andante Excursion:** Today is dedicated to the fabulous UNESCO World Heritage monuments of Ravenna starting with the Basilica di Sant'Apollinare Nuovo, then from here we walk to the Neonian Baptistery, finishing the morning at St. Andrew's Chapel, a hidden jewel inside the Archiepiscopal Museum. After lunch we explore the exceptional Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra or 'House of Stone Carpets'. Later we visit the Basilica of San Vitale and the Mausoleum Galla Placidia.

### Day Ten | Venice - London

Arriving in Venice this morning, we disembark and make our way to the airport for our flight home.

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Exclusive Andante excursions with entry to all sites as stated in the itinerary
- Field Notes
- All taxes (including port taxes) & gratuities

### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

### Accommodation

- 2 nights at a hotel in Venice & 7 nights aboard the MV Callisto

### Culinary inclusions

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- At hotel: Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner
- MV Callisto: welcome cocktail, house wine, local beer, and soft drinks are included when lunch and dinner are being served onboard. Water, filter coffee and tea are available throughout the day.

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
7th - 16th May		

Please call or visit our website for prices

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

# Classical Sicily

Rich archaeological sites and impressive artistic achievements



Admire truly exceptional mosaics at the Villa Romana, Piazza Armerina

Discover the unique landscape around Marsala

Discover the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento

Enjoy a special access evening visit to view the stunning mosaics at Cappella Palatina

12 DAYS FROM £6,545pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDES

Tony O'Connor

A specialist in the Roman Empire, Tony has excavated widely across Britain, Europe and North Africa. He first led a tour for Andante over 10 years ago and he just gets better and better!



Some of the richest archaeological sites and the most impressive artistic achievements of European culture are to be found in Sicily, the largest island in a sea which was itself thought to lie at the centre of the ancient world, the Mediterranean. Controlling the trade routes between east and west and the pivot of power between the 'superpowers' of antiquity, Sicily was fought over and repeatedly won throughout the history of western civilisation. As part of Magna Graecia, the city of Syracuse was second only to Athens and Carthaginians wrestled with Rome for control here during the first Punic War. This tour presents an extraordinary panorama of changing identities – Phoenician, Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab and Norman.

#### Day One | London - Catania

We depart from London and arrive in Catania before transferring to Palermo.

#### Day Two | Segesta & Monreale

We find the ancient Greek city of Segesta, home to an elegant but unfinished 5th-century BC Doric temple then we make our way to Monreale, the former hunting ground of the Norman kings of Sicily.

#### Day Three | Palermo

Today we explore the wonders of Palermo - from the Archaeological Museum, which houses one of the most significant collections of Punic and Ancient Greek art in all of Italy to the beautifully decorated church of La Martorana and the neighbouring Chiesa di San Cataldo. We then visit Palermo Cathedral and enjoy a private visit to the Cappella Palatina.

#### Day Four | Cefalù & Himara

Discover the charming little port of Cefalù. Later, we visit the archaeological park at Himera, the site of the legendary battle between the Greeks and Carthaginians in 480 BCE.

#### Day Five | Palermo - Motya - Marsala

This morning we drive to Marsala then cross by boat to the island of Motya. While on Motya we visit the Archaeological Museum, taking time to admire its world-renowned statue of the charioteer, a striking sculpture from the early 5th century BC.

#### Day Six | Selinus

We start at the Cave di Cusa, used by Selinus for their titanic temples. Their heavy work was abandoned in 409 BC when Carthaginians mercilessly sacked their city, a common refrain in the violent history of Sicily. We then travel on to Selinus and finish at the Acropolis of Selinus.

#### Day Seven | Agrigento

We explore the remains of Agrigento today, the site of the ancient Greek city of Akragas and take in the Valley of the Temples, a World Heritage Site of seven Doric sanctuaries. We also view the remains of the Temple of Olympian Zeus, another Sicilian temple, with an unusual layout characterised by enormous telemons.

#### Day Eight | Piazza Armerina - Morgantina - Ortygia

Our journey takes us through central Sicily, stopping at the magnificent Villa Romana del Casale in Piazza Armerina before we travel to Morgantina, a city founded by the native Sikels under their leader Ducetius.

#### Day Nine | Syracuse

Today is all about Syracuse, which Cicero described as "the greatest Greek city and the most beautiful of them all". We discover traces of Syracuse's glorious past in the exceptional Paolo Orsi Archaeological Museum, where we will explore a staggering array of vases and statues. Later, we make our way to the Neapolis Archaeological Park, home to the Great Theatre where Aeschylus' tragedies were once performed in the playwright's presence, before a walk around Ortygia, the oldest part of the ancient city.

#### Day Ten | Ortygia & Noto

Enjoy some free time exploring the wonderful island of Ortygia this morning. Later, we proceed to Noto, a baroque fantasy of a city, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We explore the city with its elaborate balconies and dramatically placed churches. This afternoon we visit the late Roman villa at Tellaro, which contains fine mosaics depicting scenes such as the ransom of Hector's body.

#### Day Eleven | Ortygia - Catania - Taormina

This morning we drive to Catania and the Piazza del Duomo, Catania's principal square and a UNESCO World Heritage site. We will also visit the Roman Theatre and Odeon. After lunch, we drive to Taormina to visit the superbly situated Roman theatre.

#### Day Twelve | Catania - London

We return to Catania for our flight back to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Palermo, Marsala, Agrigento, Ortygia & Taormina

#### Culinary inclusions

- 11 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
14th - 25th May	£6,545	£875

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

Image: The church of La Martorana

# Archaeology in the Heart of Italy

Etruscans, Romans and cultural transformation in Umbria and Lazio



Explore the well-preserved site of Vulci, with its Etruscan tombs, Roman monuments and medieval abbey

Examine Sutri with its amphitheatre, unique mithraeum and medieval Templar church, built amidst the ruins of the ancient city

Consider the important Etruscan remains in the beautiful city of Orvieto with its precious medieval cathedral

Visit the important National Etruscan Archaeological Museum and the Palace of Popes in the amazing city of Viterbo

8 DAYS FROM £4,010PP

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Dr Eireann Marshall

An Honorary Research Fellow for the Open University, Eireann has led many Andante tours. She won the Top History and Culture Guide prize at Wanderlust magazine's 2019 World Guide Awards and has also published a variety of articles on Roman North Africa.



On this tour, we explore the historical wonders of Umbria and Lazio, in what is geographically and historically the heart of Italy. Based in one hotel, in the beautiful city of Viterbo, we explore famous sites, as well as those which are less known and off the beaten track. We will visit Latin and Faliscan sites, such as Sutri and Falerii Novii, which first came under the influence of Etruscans and were later transformed by Rome. Likewise, we will be exploring Etruscan sites at Vulci and Volsinii, today's Orvieto, which metamorphosed in the period of Roman dominance. In many of the sites, we will also be exploring the evolution of the cities after the Roman period, when ancient monuments were used to build medieval abbeys and churches. By mapping the historical changes which occurred in these precious archaeological sites, we are exploring the heart of what it was to be Roman or Etruscan. In asking these questions, our visits will take us to indescribably beautiful hilltop cities, such as Orvieto and Narni, with their medieval cores and Renaissance treasures.

#### Day One | London - Rome - Viterbo

We fly to Rome Fiumicino and travel to the lovely city of Viterbo, once Etruscan and transformed in the medieval period when it became the residence of popes. Time permitting, we will have an orientation walk around the city when we arrive.

#### Day Two | Viterbo

Today we spend time in Viterbo, the city with Etruscan origins which became home to the popes in the 13th century when they were fleeing the hostility of the Roman populace. We start at the National Etruscan Museum, housed in the Rocca Albornoz, where we see precious remains of Etruscan housing and a well-preserved cart. We proceed to the medieval Palace of the Popes, including the atmospheric audience hall and end with a visit to the 12th-century Cathedral of Saint Laurence.

#### Day Three | Vulci

We set off to the famous Etruscan city of Vulci, once known as a leading member of the Etruscan league and start with the archaeological park which contains a wonderful Mithraeum. In the afternoon, we consider the so-called bridge of the devil which leads us to the Abbey Castle, built on the site of Vulci, reusing its materials.

#### Day Four | Falerii Novi & Sutri

Explore the site of Falerii Novi and see the gloriously well-preserved city walls, including the wonderful Jove Gate, one of the earliest arches in the region. After lunch, we proceed to the superb

archaeological site of Sutri where we can see an amphitheatre cut out of the tuff rock.

#### Day Five | Narni & Orte

Today we visit the pretty Umbrian hillside town of Narni, first settled by the ancient Umbri. Here we start with a visit to the Church of Saint Francis built shortly after he died in commemoration of the time he spent in the town. We then travel to Orte in Lazio to see further subterranean excavations.

#### Day Six | Lucus Feroniae & Ferento

The tour takes us to Lucus Feroniae, a city which developed around a lucus, or sacred grove, dedicated to the goddess Feronia. We walk to the Villa of the Volusii, an opulent late republican elite dwelling constructed for an elite Roman family as a getaway from the city. We then make our way to the archaeological site of Ferento, which flourished in the early imperial period and was the home of both the emperor Otho and the wife of Vespasian, Domitilla Flavia Maior.

#### Day Seven | Orvieto

We explore the world-renowned city of Orvieto and start with a visit to one of the few surviving Etruscan temples before we continue to the Museo Claudio Faina. After an independent lunch, we have the choice of either visiting the extraordinary cathedral of Orvieto made famous by the Signorelli frescoes in the San Brizio chapel or visiting the adjacent National Archaeological Museum. We end the day with a visit to the spectacular Necropolis

of Crocifisso del Tufo which hosts Etruscan tombs which mainly date from the 6th-5th centuries BC.

#### Day Eight | Viterbo - Rome - London

Today we make our way back to the Fiumicino Airport in Rome, where we catch our flights to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Viterbo

#### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
19th - 26th May	£4,010	£500

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

Image: Viterbo

# Latium Countryside

Retreats of the Roman rich



Enjoy the indescribably beautiful gardens of Ninfa in full bloom in late May

Discover a hidden gem in the spectacularly situated site of Alba Fucens

Explore the sprawling and extravagant villas at Tivoli and Sperlonga

8 DAYS FROM £3,840pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Diana Blumberg**  
An archaeological scientist, Diana specialises in the analysis of archaeological materials.



The countryside south of Rome, stretching from the rugged high Apennines to the Mediterranean coast is idyllically beautiful and provides a bucolic contrast to the city of Rome. The picturesque Sabine Hills made the ideal retreat for the great and good of Imperial Rome who came to escape the oppressive summer heat of the Eternal City. Two emperors had villas in this area – Hadrian and Tiberius. Hadrian built a villa complex here in the beautiful setting of Tivoli and his opulent and extravagant creation is one of the ‘blockbuster’ sites on this tour. Tiberius favoured Sperlonga and the remains of his summer retreat with its huge garden grotto sit close to the sea. This area is fundamental to our understanding of Roman culture and includes surviving stretches of the Via Appia, oracular and healing sanctuaries, palatial villas and towns.

#### Day One | London - Rome - Gaeta

We fly to Rome and transfer to our hotel near Gaeta.

#### Day Two | Terracina & Sperlonga

We begin in **Terracina**, an important Roman town on the Via Appia main roadway. This still runs through the centre of the modern town, and the forum survives under the Piazza del Municipio. The ancient remains of the hilltop sanctuary of Jupiter Anxur overlooks the walls and town and there are wonderful coastal views from here. We continue to the remains of the seashore villa built for Emperor Tiberius in the beautiful seaside town of **Sperlonga**, which features an outdoor dining room located at the mouth of a cave filled with gigantic sculptures of mythological scenes.

#### Day Three | Ninfa & Norba

We visit the famous gardens at **Ninfa**, recognised as some of Europe’s finest gardens with ruins romantically draped with rambling roses and wisteria. In the afternoon we head to the Latin town and Roman colony at **Norba**, perched on the edge of a cliff in the Lepini Mountains.

#### Day Four | Gaeta - Monte Cassino - Frascati

This morning we visit the remains of the Roman town of **Casinum**, including the famous monastery of **Monte Cassino**. This beautiful abbey is an outstanding example of restoration work following its almost total destruction by bombardment in 1944.

#### Day Five | Tivoli

We visit **Hadrian’s Villa** which sprawls across the rolling countryside at the foot of the hills below the town of Tivoli. Beginning around AD 117 as a small family villa, the complex ended up larger than most Roman cities. We visit the town this afternoon and pay a visit to the great 16th century **Villa D’Este**.

#### Day Six | Tusculum & Palestrina

We drive into the Alban Hills to **Tusculum**, a significant Roman city destroyed in the 12th century after conflict between the Holy Roman Empire and the Pope. Tusculum was Cicero’s local town, and his suburban villa could be found nearby. We continue to **Palestrina**, ancient Praeneste, once dominated by a magnificent Sanctuary of Fortuna Primigenia, the first example of ‘dynastic’ architecture in Roman Italy. It is most famous for a huge mosaic depicting scenes of life beside and on the Nile in the 17th century, removed from the site and now houses in the nearby **Palestrina Museum**.

#### Day Seven | Alba Fucens

We ascend the mountains to the spectacular **Alba Fucens**, where we will spend the day. Its importance for the Romans lay in the fact that it lies on Via Valeria (which links Rome with the Adriatic) thus controlling a strategic part of the route.

#### Day Eight | Rome - London

Our tour ends today, and we make our way back to Rome airport for our return flight to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Palermo, Marsala, Agrigento, Ortygia & Taormina

#### Culinary inclusions

- 11 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
26th May - 2nd Jun	£4,040	£3,840 £380

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

# Sicily & the Aeolian Islands

Explore unearthed treasures, stunning cities and geographical wonders



Spend four nights on Lipari while we explore the archaeology of the UNESCO-listed Aeolian Islands

Admire the remarkably beautiful 5th-century Riace Bronzes rescued from the Ionian Sea

Discover Catania, ‘the city under the volcano’, with its architecture shaped by Mount Etna itself

Enjoy a private visit to Cappella Palatina, a glorious mix of architectural styles

11 DAYS FROM £6,145pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Dr Eireann Marshall**  
An Honorary Research Fellow for the Open University, Eireann has led many Andante tours. She won the Top History and Culture Guide prize at Wanderlust magazine’s 2019 World Guide Awards and has also published a variety of articles on Roman North Africa.



As far back as we can trace, Sicily was an island that numerous civilisations – Sicels, Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Normans, Germans, French, Spanish, Bourbons – flocked to and fought for as a result of its strategic position. Every conquering nation left its indelible mark on the island, creating a unique mosaic of influences and a treasure trove of ancient gems, which we uncover on this extensive tour. We also venture out to the Aeolian Islands, a UNESCO-listed archipelago renowned for its natural beauty, and visit the remains of the villages once inhabited by their Neolithic settlers.

#### Day One | London - Catania

We fly from London to Catania and transfer to our hotel in Taormina.

#### Day Two | Messina

We make our way north to **Messina Regional Museum**, where notable treasures include works by Caravaggio and Antonello da Messina. Crossing by hydrofoil, we discover Villa San Giovanni and the **National Archaeological Museum of Reggio Calabria**, known for its world-famous **Riace Bronzes**.

#### Day Three | Taormina & Catania

Today we step into an ancient world in Taormina, discovering the remains of **Naumachia**, the incredible **Greek theatre**, Roman houses, **Palazzo Corvaja** and the **Roman odeon**. This afternoon we stop off at Giardini Naxos before continuing to **Catania**, a stunning city with a UNESCO-listed centre. There is plenty to see, including the 18th-century Elephant Fountain, the spectacular cathedral, Greek theatre and the lava-stone odeon.

#### Day Four | Taormina - Lipari

We make our way to the coastal town of **Milazzo**, where we visit the imposing castle, and then the **Antiquarium of Milazzo**. After lunch, we sail to Lipari, the largest of the UNESCO-listed Aeolian Islands.

#### Day Five | Lipari

We begin with a walk around petty **Lipari** and onwards to **Contrada Diana**, an archaeological site and necropolis famous for its well-preserved tombs and wealth of artefacts. Next is **Lipari Castle**, the

Cathedral of San Bartolomeo and the Aeolian Archaeological Museum.

#### Day Six | Salina & Filicudi

Today we sail to **Salina** and visit the prehistoric village of Portella, the **Rinicedda Neolithic site**, where the findings are fascinating, the baths at **Contrada Barone** and the **Civic Museum at Lingua**. After lunch we take the ferry to Filicudi to discover a duo of prehistoric sites.

#### Day Seven | Panarea & Stromboli

This morning’s destination is **Panarea**, the smallest of the inhabited Aeolian Islands, and the Bronze Age site of **Capo Milazzese**. Weather permitting, we then take a cruise around mighty **Stromboli**.

#### Day Eight | Lipari - Palermo

After breakfast, we return to the mainland and visit **Tindari Archaeological Park**, which boasts well-preserved ruins from the ancient city of Tyndaris. En route to our hotel we stop in **Cefalù**.

#### Day Nine | Palermo

We spend the day exploring **Palermo**, the capital of Sicily, where are plenty of treasures to admire in the **Antonio Salinas Regional Archaeology Museum**. After visiting two smaller churches, we head to **Palermo Cathedral**, with its diverse mix of styles, intricate mosaics, impressive chapels and royal tombs, along with the Normal Palace Phoenician Antiquarium. To round off our day, we are treated to a private visit to the breathtaking **Cappella Palatina**.

#### Day Ten | Segesta & Monreale

Today we explore **Segesta**, one of the major cities of the enigmatic Elymian civilisation before journeying to ochre-hued **Monreale**.

#### Day Eleven | Palermo - London

We transfer from Palermo to the airport for our return flight to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Viterbo

#### Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 6 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
27th May - 6th Jun	£6,595	£6,145 £995

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

# Prehistoric Italy

Ötzi and the Alpine Valleys of Val Camonica



Discover Ötzi, the Ice Man, the most complete ambassador from the Copper Age, with all that he was wearing and carrying

Enjoy a morning in Ledro on the scenic shores of the mountain lake as we study the well preserved remains of a Bronze Age village

Explore the prehistoric gallery of over 100,000 rock art depictions at the rock art sites in Naquane Park

6 DAYS FROM £2,995pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Dr Tertia Barnett

An archaeologist specialising in rock art, Tertia runs a research project exploring Scotland's Neolithic rock carvings and is also an Honorary Fellow at Edinburgh University.



Throughout history, the fertile (and beautiful) Val Camonica valleys were an important route through the Italian Alps connecting northern and southern Europe. Prehistorians have theorised that the continuing movement of peoples and goods, especially during the Bronze and Iron Ages, gave rise to a dynamic prehistoric society – the history of which is packed into this ice-scoured landscape of lakes and mountains.

The Alpine valleys of Val Camonica hold one of the largest collections of Prehistoric rock art in the world - Italy's first World Heritage Site. From 6,000 years ago – from the Neolithic all the way through the Roman period – the inhabitants of Val Camonica etched pictures into the rock. Each depiction is unique, creating a varied and concentrated gallery of prehistoric life: there are animals, humans, boats, carts, huts - some strung together into narratives - an almost overwhelming profusion of detail.

#### Day One | London – Verona - Boario Terme

We fly to Verona and transfer to our hotel in Boario Terme.

#### Day Two | Val Camonica

We begin our survey of the extraordinary rock art with a two-day exploration of **Val Camonica**. Today we visit the incredible rock art sites in Naquane Park, which extends over 14 hectares. The valley is 75kms in length and contains more than 100,000 prehistoric rock art images depicting people, animals, tools and weapons. We continue with a visit to the huge Copper Age engraved boulders at **Massi di Cemno**. Excavations here uncovered a significant multi-period sanctuary. In the afternoon, we spend time in the **National Museum of Prehistory della Val Camonica**. Here, we will see a marvellous collection of statue stelae and a wide range of finds from decades of excavations in the valley.

#### Day Three | Val Camonica

This morning, we visit the rock art sites in the archaeological park of **Seradina-Bedolini** showing scenes of hunting, war, magic and agriculture. After lunch, we contrast art with everyday domestic life as we view reconstructed prehistoric houses – and more rock art – at **Foppe di Nadro**. Here, we can see a Neolithic hut and also a Rhaetic Iron Age house, giving a good idea of how the people that made the rock art lived.

#### Day Four | Boario Terme - Lake Ledro - Trento

Today we make our way through the foothills of the Alps to the shores of beautiful Lake Ledro where a Bronze Age pile dwelling village (known as a palafitta) was discovered in 1929. We visit the **Pile Dwelling Museum** to see the finds from the site and view its reconstructed houses. Images of possible prehistoric houses carved in the rocks at Val Camonica may represent settlements such as these. The remarkable finds excavated from the lake village include baked bread moulded around heated stones. In the afternoon we continue to Riva del Garda and **La Rocca Museum**, where the exhibits include **Copper Age** statues.

#### Day Five | Bolzano & Trento

We drive further into the Alps and visit the **South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology** in Bolzano, home of Ötzi, the Ice Man. Scientists and archaeologists have unravelled (and continue to unravel) the tiniest details of his life during the Copper Age, 5,000 years ago. His body has yielded information on how he lived and what he ate, how his tattoos possibly indicate acupuncture points, how he survived and how he died. The original artefacts are very well displayed, along with the excellent reconstructions and are irresistibly fascinating. After lunch we return to Trento to visit the magnificent **Romanesque cathedral** and the excavations of a Roman street below one of its piazzas, the Bishop's Palace.

#### Day Six | Trento - Verona - London

We make our way to Verona for our return flight to London.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Boario & Trento

#### Culinary inclusions

- 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches & 5 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
31st May - 5th Jun	£3,245	£2,995 £320

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

Images top to bottom: Trento & Bolzano

# Rock Art of Portugal & Spain

Cave art without the caves



Explore the most remarkable open-air ensemble of Palaeolithic art on the Iberian Peninsula

Stay two nights in Porto, enjoying its old-world charm and UNESCO heritage status

Enjoy a lovely rail trip along the valley of the Foz Coa on the MiraDuoro train

7 DAYS FROM £3,520pp

£0 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT PLACES AVAILABLE

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

Dr Paul Bahn

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



As an immense open-air gallery, the Côa Valley is blessed with more than a thousand rock art depictions, identified in more than 80 different sites, with a predominance of Palaeolithic engravings, executed around 30,000 years ago. This is a rare opportunity to visit rock art away from the beaten tourist trail, across the Spanish/Portuguese border region, in unspoiled countryside. Set within the peaceful valley of the Côa River, surrounded by rolling hills and vineyards, the engravings were only discovered 20 years ago when they were about to be drowned as part of a huge dam project. An international outcry saved the rock art for prosperity. It is not only the largest outdoor collection of Palaeolithic images, but also, the only known place where rock art from the Upper Palaeolithic (c2400 BCE) through to historical times is found together. There is an interesting comparison with the Spanish site at Siega Verde just across the border.

#### Day One | London - Porto

We fly from London to Porto and make our way to our hotel.

#### Day Two | Porto - Foz Côa

We make the most of our time in the lovely town of **Porto** this morning with a guided walk through the key parts of the city, which have helped to make the town into the UNESCO heritage site it is today. We might visit the cathedral, or the Casa do Infante. After an early lunch, we board a train on a scenic journey along the green and pleasant Douro river valley towards Foz Côa and Pocinho. From here we will transfer to our hotel in preparation of our first rock art sites tomorrow morning.

#### Day Three | Canada do Inferno & Fariseu

We begin appropriately, at **Canada do Inferno**, where the first petroglyphs were discovered in 1991. The chronology of rock art here encompasses all phases of Palaeolithic art and the tradition of engraving continued during the Neolithic period. This afternoon we visit **Fariseu**, a site so unique that for a long time its authenticity remained the subject of hot debate and later in the early evening, we will take a trip up to **Penascosa**. By visiting in the evening with artificial light, we are able to see

details in the artwork that cannot easily be picked out during daylight.

#### Day Four | Ribeira de Piscos - Foz Côa Museum - Penascosa

We return to the Côa Valley again today, this time venturing further to the **Ribeira de Piscos**. Some of the best known of all the region's images are to be found here including the 'Man of Piscos', a rare human figure etched into the rocks. After lunch we visit the **Foz Côa Museum**, housed in a beautiful contemporary building with plenty of space and light to view the displays. The museum tells the story not only of the art itself, but also its discovery and the fight to preserve the heritage of the region. Afterwards, we return to the Penascosa site to view it in daylight.

#### Day Five | Siega Verde & Castelo Rodrigo

We take another lovely drive through rolling countryside to **Siega Verde** where we will explore many of the rock art sites, some of which date back twenty millennia. The site boasts a menagerie of prehistoric wildlife, from goat to bison and reindeer to woolly rhinoceros. Before returning to our hotel we stop at **Castelo Rodrigo**, a fortified medieval town with a well-preserved Gothic castle. We will

have some time to explore its winding streets at leisure before we head back to Foz Côa.

#### Day Six | Foz Côa - Porto

Before our return to Porto this afternoon, we make one final visit to the **Foz Côa Museum**, where we can explore at our own pace. After lunch we will make our way back to the station and board our train for our second trip along the river valley back to Porto.

#### Day Seven | Porto - London

We transfer to the airport and travel back to London today.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Porto & Foz Côa

#### Culinary inclusions

- 6 breakfasts, 5 lunches & 6 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
19th - 25th May	£3,720	£3,520 £340 £0

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

Images top to bottom: Côa Valley rock art



# Carthage & Roman Tunisia

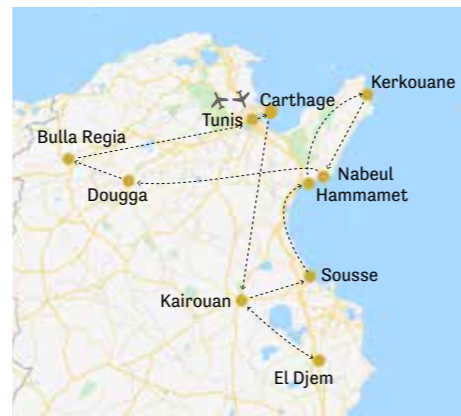
Stand before the mighty ancient amphitheatre of El Djem



Visit the incredible El Djem amphitheatre, Africa's largest and best preserved  
Gaze upon some of the world's most impressive mosaics at the Bardo, Sousse and El Djem museums  
Tour a selection of little-known sites, including Mustis and Ain Tounga as well as the Bulla Regia  
Explore the UNESCO-listed sites of Dougga and Kairouan, and the beautifully preserved site of Kerkouane

10 DAYS FROM £3,645pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

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



A land where dramatic events shaped ancient history – the superpowers of Carthage and Rome clashed in three Punic Wars, which determined the course of Western history. Lasting over 100 years, this conflict resulted in the destruction of Carthage and assured Roman ascendancy. Superb sites and changing landscapes, from rolling hills and olive groves to sparkling sea, makes this an excellent tour.

#### Day One | London - Tunis

Today we fly from London Heathrow to Tunis and check in to our hotel.

#### Day Two | Carthage

Today is devoted to **Carthage**. We enjoy visits to **Byrsa Hill**, **Salambo Tophet** and also the **Cothon**, or harbour, a testament to Carthage's famous maritime might; the **Roman Antonine Baths**.

#### Day Three | Tunis

This morning we begin with a visit to the famous **Bardo Museum**, situated in an old Beylical palace. In the afternoon we drive south of Tunis and study a section of the **Carthage aqueduct at Jebel Oust**, before exploring nearby **Oudna** (Uthina) a city established by Emperor Augustus for retired soldiers of the Third Legion.

#### Day Four | Tunis - Dougga

We drive west this morning through the hills and some of the most beautiful countryside in Tunisia to **Bulla Regia**, stopping en route to admire the small town of **Testour** established in the 17th century by Jewish and Muslim communities who came here from Andalusia to escape the Spanish Inquisition. We will have lunch at the small site café before exploring Bulla Regia.

#### Day Five | Bulla Regia

Today is dedicated to the magnificent site of **Dougga**. We visit the theatre and famous Capitolium. We also explore bath complexes, houses and sanctuaries, all in the kind of peace no longer found at European sites.

#### Day Six | Dougga - Kairouan

We journey south west to the delightful and little-visited site of **Thuburbo Majus**. Later this afternoon, we travel to Kairouan, Tunisia's most important religious city, founded by the Umayyads in the 7th century AD.

#### Day Seven | El Djem

Today we make our way southeast to **El Djem**. Originally a Numidian city called Thysdrus, El Djem was particularly wealthy in the 2nd century AD. Afterwards, we visit the **Museum of El Djem** which houses some of the most impressive mosaics in Tunisia. Returning to Kairouan, we visit the **Great Mosque**, one of the major monuments of Islam and an architectural masterpiece.

#### Day Eight | Kairouan - Hammamet

We begin in Kairouan at the viewpoint over the **Aghlabid pools**, reservoirs built on the outskirts of the city in the 9th century, which at one time were considered to be a great wonder mentioned by Arab geographers for their grandeur. Afterwards, we visit the **Barber Mosque**, burial place of one of the prophet's companions, Abu Zama El Belauoui. In the afternoon we make our way north to Sousse, now a busy tourist destination but once an early trading post on the route from Tyre to the West. **Sousse Museum** is housed in part of the 12th century Kasbah, or high citadel, and the displays include an exceptionally fine series of mosaics.

#### Day Nine | Kerkouane

Today we travel along the beautiful coastline of the Cap Bon peninsula to **Kerkouane**, a UNESCO-listed site overlooking the sea. We visit the site museum, which has interesting remains from

the nearby necropolis. After lunch, we continue to **Nabeul** to see its small museum before returning to our hotel.

#### Day Ten | Hammamet - Tunis - London

We transfer to Tunis airport for our flight home.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in the Hotel Dar Said, La Kasbah Hotel, Hotel Sindbad & Hotel Thugga or similar

#### Culinary inclusions

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
17th - 26th Apr	£3,645	£455

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

# Classical Turkey: The Aegean Coast

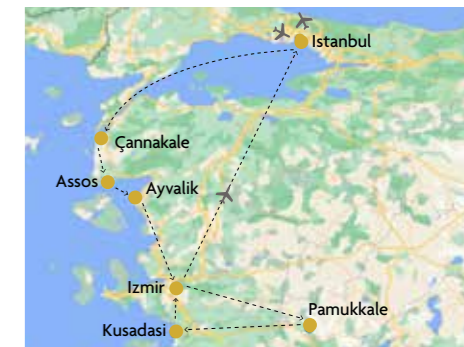
Powerful city states of ancient history



Gaze upon the mighty walls of Troy as everyone from Achilles to Alexander the Great has desired to do  
Explore remarkably well-preserved classical cities such as Pergamon, Miletus and Aphrodisias, and discover a range of evocative lesser-known ruins  
Discover the Hagia Sophia, one of the most remarkable ancient structures in the world

11 DAYS FROM £4,695pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



### YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Isabella Sjöström**  
An archaeologist who has excavated in the UK, Italy, Greece, Turkey and Libya, Isabella works as a pottery specialist with the Sudan Archaeological Research Society.



The Greek and Roman cities of Turkey's Aegean coast were once some of the most powerful in the ancient world, from - if Homer is to be believed - the site of the legendary conflict between Greeks and Trojans, to the World Heritage Site of Hierapolis. The remains of these splendid cities are set in a breathtaking landscape of rugged limestone peaks, plunging valleys, olive groves, pine forests and flower-dotted meadows, with the glittering blue waters of the Aegean Sea highlighting the distance. Each site we visit offers a memorable experience, but the star attraction is undoubtedly the special access we have to the Roman-era terraced houses of Ephesus, whose painted walls and mosaics are amazing.

#### Day One | London - Istanbul

We fly to Istanbul and transfer to our hotel in the historic district of Sultanahmet.

#### Day Two | Istanbul

Today we explore **Istanbul** and some of its major sites including the magnificent Hippodrome with its Egyptian obelisk and the **Blue Mosque** with its richly decorated interior.

#### Day Three | Istanbul - Assos

We journey around the sea of Marmara to Çannakale where we take the ferry across the Dardanelles and continue to the ancient city of **Troy**. Heinrich Schliemann dug the first excavation between 1871 and 1879 cutting through nine later levels to get to the second, which he thought was 'Homeric' Troy. Following later excavations, we now know that the sixth level (1750-1300 BC) is most likely Homer's city.

#### Day Four | Assos - Ayvalik

We drive from sea level up to the site of **Assos**, one of the most beautifully situated sites in Turkey, perched on a prominent hilltop overlooking the Aegean and Sappho's Island of Lesbos. The site has a fine set of city walls, a magnificent theatre and the famous **Doric Temple of Athena** on the Acropolis's east side. This afternoon we continue our journey around the coast to Ayvalik, stopping on the way to visit **Antandros**. This Greco-Roman city is located on the slopes of Mount Ida and was established in the 7th century BCE. Later we arrive in **Ayvalik**.

#### Day Five | Ayvalik - Izmir

We spend the day at the great Hellenistic city of **Pergamon**, one of the greatest ancient cities in Turkey, who's extensive remains range across a dramatic rocky outcrop. After lunch, we visit **Pergamon Museum** and the **Aesclepium**.

#### Day Six | Izmir - Pamukkale

Our first visit of the day is to the **Karabel Rock Relief**, before continuing inland to **Sardis**, a city that has always acted as a centre of Power. We continue to **Pamukkale**, the limestone 'cotton castle' of calcite pools with warm thermal springs.

#### Day Seven | Hierapolis & Laodicea

Today we explore ancient **Hierapolis** and **Laodicea**, a site largely unknown until 2003 when excavations revealed its history dates to 5,500 BCE, with the city's peak occurring between the first and third centuries AD.

#### Day Eight | Pamukkale - Kusadasi

We travel east up the long valley of the Menderes River, through stunning scenery, stopping at the magnificent site of **Aphrodisias** the capital of the Roman province of Caria.

#### Day Nine | Priene, Didyma & Miletus

We visit **Priene**, **Didyma** and end the day at **Miletus**, home of Hippodamus of Miletus, among others, who is credited as inventing regular city organisation, the origin of town planning no less!

#### Day Ten | Ephesus & Selçuk

Our tour culminates at **Ephesus**, one of western Turkey's highlights. We end the day at the fortifications and **Basilica of St. John at Selçuk**, an extensive church built by Emperor Justinian over the tomb of John, in the sixth century. This was in the town that replaced Ephesus in medieval times.

#### Day Eleven | Kusadasi - Izmir - London

We drive to Izmir, where the tour ends, for our flight home via Istanbul.

### YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

#### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

#### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Istanbul, Assos, Ayvalik, Izmir, Pamukkale & Kusadasi

#### Culinary inclusions

- 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches & 10 dinners
- Water with all meals, tea or coffee with dinner

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
14th - 24th Apr	£5,045	£825

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

# Turkey: From Çatal Hüyük to Göbekli Tepe

A journey through Cappadocia and south east Turkey

Discover one of the oldest settlements in the world at Çatal Hüyük

View the extraordinary volcanic landscapes, underground cities and rock-cut churches in Cappadocia

Visit the excavations at Göbekli Tepe, with megaliths predating Stonehenge by an impressive 7,500 years

Walk up to the World Heritage Site of Nemrut Dag, where huge statues of syncretised Greek-Persian gods and the kings of Commagene gaze imposingly from the summit of a remote peak



# Archaeology & Wildlife of the Pembrokeshire Coast

Exploring the wild, wild west

Explore the most remarkable open-air ensemble of Palaeolithic art on the Iberian Peninsula

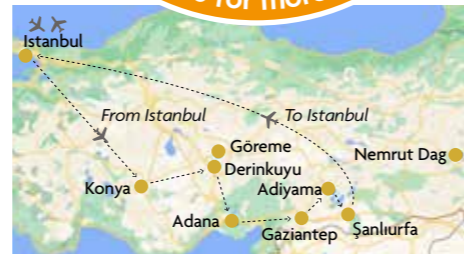
Stay two nights in Porto, enjoying its old-world charm and UNESCO heritage status

Enjoy a lovely rail trip along the valley of the Foz Coa on the MiraDuoro train



14 DAYS FROM £8,145pp

Activity Level ●●●○○



## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Terry Richardson**  
Terry Richardson has a university background in ancient history and classical civilisation.



of structures centred on carved megaliths up to 5 metres in height. In the afternoon we continue further east and south to the remote site of Karahantepe, where a series of circular enclosures and T-shaped monoliths (250 of them) have been uncovered.

## Day Thirteen | Şanlıurfa

Today we explore more of Şanlıurfa and view the Pools of Abraham. Şanlıurfa is Turkey's most Middle Eastern city, and we continue our exploration of this bustling place with a foray into the labyrinthine bazaar.

## Day Fourteen | Şanlıurfa - Istanbul - London

After breakfast this morning we head to Şanlıurfa airport for our return journey to the UK

## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

### Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

### Accommodation

- Accommodation in Konya, Göreme, Adana, Gaziantep, Adiyaman, Şanlıurfa

### Culinary inclusions

- 13 breakfasts, 12 lunches & 13 dinners
- Water with all meals, tea or coffee with dinner

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
28th Apr - 11th May	£8,545	£8,145

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

Image: Göreme

6 DAYS FROM £2,290pp

£0 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT PLACES AVAILABLE

Activity Level ●●●○○



Pembrokeshire's long history is colourful and dramatic, possessing a rich legacy of prehistoric and later remains intrinsically linked to its coastline. From Neolithic cromlech to 11th century cathedrals, and from bracken-strewn hills to a sea-faring trip that takes us between its outlying islands, join us as we explore one of the country's most captivating landscapes.

## Day One | Haverfordwest

We meet at our hotel for an introductory lecture, which is followed by dinner with our Guide Lecturer and fellow guests.

## Day Two | Pentre Ifan & Garn Fawr

In the morning we visit the megalithic tomb of **Pentre Ifan**, the largest and one of the finest dolmens in Wales, dating from around 3500 BCE. Afterwards, it's on to the site of **Garn Fawr**, a coastal hillfort and enclosure system with breathtaking views of the coast and lighthouse at Strumble Head. In the afternoon we visit **Castell Henllys**, an Iron Age promontory fort with extensive defences and a large settlement.

## Day Three | Marloes

Today, weather and tide permitting, we take a boat trip through some of the richest water for wildlife off the coast of the British Isles. In the afternoon we visit **Carew Castle** and **Tidal Mill**. From an Iron Age fort to an Elizabethan stronghold, the site's history spans some 2,000 years. Here, we also find the only restored tidal mill in Wales.

## Day Four | Solva & St. David's

We take a walk around the harbour of **Solva**, a small town steeped in maritime history and, during the 18th and 19th centuries, one of the busiest trading ports in Pembrokeshire. From Solva, we walk up to the Iron Age fort that stands on the end of the **Gribin**. This afternoon we visit **St. David's Cathedral**, constructed on one of Britain's most ancient Christian sites.

## Day Five | Gors Fawr & Carn Menyn

Our day begins with an exploration at **Gors Fawr**, the sole surviving stone circle in the county. From here we walk to **Croesmihangel** and then it's on to the early Iron Age hill fort of **Foel Drigarn**, with a trilogy of burial cairns contained within rings of ramparts and ditches. In the afternoon we explore the quarry at **Carn Meini** and then **Waun Mawn**, where excavations confirm that Stonehenge's bluestones were erected first as a stone circle here before being later dismantled and moved on to Salisbury Plain.

## Day Six | Haverfordwest

We say farewell to Pembrokeshire and make our independent onward journeys.

## YOUR EXPERT GUIDE

**Ken Murphy**

Ken Murphy is a field archaeologist with over 45 years' experience. He has worked on numerous field and desk-based projects since 1979 including large-scale excavation of prehistoric and later sites, topographic survey of sites of all periods, and landscape analysis of large parts of southwest Wales.



## YOUR COMPREHENSIVE EXPERT GUIDED TOUR INCLUDES

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

### Included travel

- All local transport

### Accommodation

- Accommodation in the Hotel Mariners, Haverfordwest or similar

### Culinary inclusions

- 5 breakfasts, 3 lunches & 5 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine and tea or coffee with dinner

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
21st - 26th May	£2,440	£2,290

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

Image: St. David's Cathedral & Solva

# Choose Andante Travels for an unrivalled archaeology tour experience

## THE ANDANTE EXPERIENCE

No one does archaeological holidays quite like Andante, the first specialist UK operator to go beyond the surface of cultural travel, to dig deeper into the past and create unique explorations of some of the world's most important sites. From the relationships we have with local custodians to the way travelling with an expert enhances the experience, and from 24-hour support from our team while you're on tour to the careful thought that goes into each itinerary, trust Andante for your next ancient world adventure and travel with the best.

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With maximum numbers of 18 on every tour, you can enjoy the sociability of travelling with people who share your interest but in a group small enough to allow for ease of access and quality time with your Guide Lecturer. 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. Regardless of whether you are travelling with friends, with a partner or solo, rest assured you'll find a happy, informal ambience on our tours.

## VALUE FOR MONEY

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.

## Get in touch with an expert

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

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