

ANDANTE

TRAVELS

ADVENTURES IN ARCHAEOLOGY



AUTUMN & WINTER 2023

BRAND NEW FESTIVE TOURS | NEW DEPARTURE DATES ADDED | SINGLE SUPPLEMENT DISCOUNTS

PART OF THE **SPECIALIST JOURNEYS** GROUP OF TOUR OPERATORS

FROM AUTUMN INTO WINTER AND THE FESTIVE SEASON

Autumn is a season that captivates hearts and ignites a sense of adventure. As we bid farewell to the scorching heat and throngs of tourists which pervade many cultural destinations during the summer, we look forward to the crunch of fallen leaves, the breath of crisp air on a sunny autumnal day, and, as the days move into winter, the long shadows which bring the nooks and crannies of long abandoned buildings into greater definition.

We have some wonderful trips in store for autumn and winter 2023 with new programmes in Europe that will take you to the picture-perfecting setting and cobalt blue waters of Lake Garda (p7), fabulous Bronze Age sites set amongst the olive groves of Corsica (p22), picturesque harbours, pastel-coloured houses and terraced vineyards of the Cinque Terre (p25) and the extraordinary Etruscan, Roman and Greek galleries in the Louvre, (p21). Further afield, we have some lovely old favourites. For nearly three decades we have been delighting in the splendid Greek and Roman cities set in the breath-taking landscape of rugged limestone peaks, plunging valleys, and pine forests along the glittering Aegean coast (p29) and exploring the land where the superpowers of Carthage and Rome clashed in three Punic Wars, which determined the course of Western history (p38). It's wonderful to see these programmes continue to inspire and delight alongside regular favourites like Pompeii (p5), Sicily (p9), Rome (p6) and Crete (p17).

Whether you yearn for the misty hills of Ireland or the sun-soaked sites of the Silk route or you long for something special to do this Christmas/New Year (p44-47), we are sure there is an autumn or winter escape here just for you.

Best wishes,



Jackie Willis
CEO

Offers

LAST REMAINING ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT OR 50% DISCOUNT PLACES FOR 2023

As you can imagine these savings have been popular, so there are now only a few places left on selected tours departing in 2023. Keep a look out these on the relevant tour pages!

ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
PLACES AVAILABLE

50% OFF SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

BACK-TO-BACK TOURS DISCOUNT

Make up for lost travel time and now save up to £300pp when you book back-to-back tours. See individual tour pages for more details of discounts that can be applied.

MULTI-TOUR DISCOUNTS

If you book three or more tours in the same calendar year, you will receive £150pp off your third booking. For further details, please visit our website.

Terms & conditions: We reserve the right to withdraw special offers at any time.

ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT & 50% DISCOUNT PLACES: There are a limited number of these places left on selected departures, so when they're gone, they're gone. These places are subject to hotel availability.

BACK-TO-BACK TOURS DISCOUNT: If you book any of our back-to-back tour combinations in the same transaction, you will enjoy a discount of up to £300pp off your total. Minimum spend £1,500 per person. Deposit payable on each tour.

MULTI-TOUR DISCOUNTS: If you book three or more tours in the same calendar year, you will receive £150pp off your third booking. To qualify for this discount, at least two of your three tour bookings must be for overseas destinations. The discount excludes Study Day bookings.

How to book

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

If you have already booked a place on one of our tours and require further information, please get in touch with our experienced Customer Care team.

Call today:

01722 671 672

Or visit our website:

andantetravels.co.uk



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Southampton Road, Whaddon, Salisbury, SP5 3HT
Tel: 01722 713 800 | Email: tours@andantetravels.com
www.andantetravels.co.uk

Often imitated, never matched

No one does archaeological touring 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.



INSIDER KNOWLEDGE GARNERED FROM NEARLY 40 YEARS OF TOURING

We are fast approaching our 40th anniversary in travel and our longevity in the industry means that not only do we know the destinations and sites we visit inside and out, we have also fostered strong relationships with the people on the ground who help us bring our carefully curated itineraries to life. This, in turn, enables us to create the most in-depth, all-encompassing, and immersive tours possible for our guests. We know the best way to get you there, the most effective routes to travel around and how to make your time on site as memorable and worthwhile as it can be.

QUALITY TIME ON SITE – WE DON'T CUT CORNERS

When you choose an archaeological tour with Andante, rest assured that your time at sites both iconic and lesser known will be very well spent. We don't cut corners, you won't be rushed, and your visits throughout will be at a pace that independent travellers aim for when they explore the ancient world.

WE ONLY SEE THE VERY BEST ON TOUR AND ONLY ADD FREE TIME WHEN IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF GUESTS TO DO SO

While our tours are still holidays, we understand that our guests want to explore the destination they have chosen and really get the most out of their time away. Our itineraries are designed to showcase the best of what's on offer, travelling between archaeological sites and museums, restaurants, and hotels, so that nothing worth experiencing is missed. Every minute of your time on tour is precious and we make sure not to waste it.

ADDITION OF SPECIAL SITES KNOWN TO OUR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

One of the advantages of choosing a tour led by an expert archaeologist is the access and insight they offer. For example, a number of our tours include visits to sites made possible only through the knowledge and connections of the Guide Lecturer at the helm.

TOUR MANAGERS AS WELL AS GUIDE LECTURERS SO THEY CAN FOCUS ON INFORMING

In addition to travelling in the company of an expert Guide Lecturer, you will be accompanied by a Tour Manager throughout your trip, who will be on hand to manage the day-to-day aspects of the overall experience, leaving your Guide Lecturer free to focus on informing and entertaining.

CALIBRE OF OUR GUIDE LECTURERS – UNLIKE LOCAL GUIDES THEY CAN PRESENT SITES IN A MUCH WIDER HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Unlike local guides, travelling to an ancient world destination in the company of an expert Guide Lecturer means they can present the sites visited in a much wider historical context. You will also have many opportunities to ask questions throughout your tour, with direct access to someone who knows the sites and their stories incredibly well. Among our team of expert guides, you'll find renowned historians, experience archaeologists, popular broadcasters, and accomplished authors, so you will always be in fantastic hands on an Andante tour.

CAREFULLY THOUGHT-OUT PROGRAMMES THAT FOLLOW A THEME

Our itineraries are designed by experts and led by them, too. We work closely with our Guide Lecturers from the early tour development stages and, thanks to their insight, our tours remain engaging and invigorating, as it's in their warm and skilful presence that the past quickly springs to life. Our programme is diverse and exciting, with each itinerary delving deeper into the stories of an era, a particular civilisation, or the life of a particular individual.

EXCELLENT VALUE – INCLUSIVE OF MEALS AND WINE AT DINNER, NO PASSING AROUND A HAT FOR TIPS AS THESE ARE ALL INCLUDED

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

24HR PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE

Should you need any help with official form-filling or advice on what to pack, our friendly team is always ready to help here from the office. While you are on holiday, our Tour Manager is on hand to help, at the end of the phone or just a step or two away, should you need them. And with round the clock support from our operations team, we can provide practical assistance at every point of the tour.

Italy

It is not an exaggeration to say that the peninsula of Italy and its magnificent Mediterranean Islands are crawling with world-class sites and monuments. Here, we find the haunting site of Pompeii, the Valley of the Temples, the phenomenal remains in the city of Rome and much, much more. Our Italy portfolio has expanded over the years, and we are proud to present in this brochure a selection of our tineraries that can take you there.

What is staggering about Italy's cultural remains is not just the sheer number of them – 53 cultural World Heritage Sites and 31 tentative World Heritage Sites – but the wonderful variety. From the white-tipped peaks of the Dolomites to the orange groves at the foot of Mount Etna, this destination offers a unique insight into our cultural past, not just because it is the homeland of the Eternal City but because it hosts such a rich collection of archaeological sites, including the world-famous, utterly breathtaking Vesuvian towns.

Southern Italy, called Magna Graecia by the Romans, was once one of the most affluent parts of ancient Greece, conquered by the Normans and later ruled by an Islamic Caliphate. As a result, it is home to some of the most sublime Greek Temples and impressive Norman castles in the world. Sardinia and Sicily, two of the largest islands in Mediterranean, traded with and were colonised by peoples from all over southern Europe and North Africa, and are blessed with extraordinary Neolithic and Bronze Age sites as well as Phoenician settlements, giving rise to the culturally rich havens that they are today.

Moreover, Italy has been indelibly influenced by that city on the Tiber, which was the epicentre of an empire that encompassed all of the Mediterranean, as well as a third of the world's population at the time. For its centrality to Christianity, Rome can still lay claim being called the caput mundi and nowhere is this more felt than in Italian cities, which were nearly all shaped in the Roman period and reinvigorated in the Medieval and Renaissance, which sought, above all, to emulate Rome. It is for the splendour of its medieval cityscapes and richness of its Renaissance architecture that central and northern Italy is justly famous. It is here that artists, trying to go back to Roman aesthetics, produced those uniquely exquisite frescoes that adorn churches and palazzi, as well as canvases that grace a multitude of museums.



ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
PLACES AVAILABLE

Pompeii, Herculaneum & Classical Campania

Exclusive access to the off-site theatre of Herculaneum

8 DAYS From £2,695pp Departing September & October

Nowhere in the world could give a deeper insight into Roman life than the dramatic seaside towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Before the eruption of Vesuvius these were thriving, lively seaside towns - Pompeii, a trading town equipped with many bars, shops and brothels, while Herculaneum was an affluent elegant town. Your expert guide lecturer will bring to life the ordinary people of Pompeii, Herculaneum and beyond on this fascinating tour. This is an exciting time for visitors to these Vesuvian towns, as new discoveries are constantly being made, and new houses constantly opened up. Lose yourself in the past, walking the ancient streets in the footsteps of gladiators, slaves, senators and citizens.

Tour Highlights

- Special access to Villa Sora in Torre del Greco
- Enjoy visits to off the beaten track villas at Stabiae
- Explore the newly excavated House of Leda in Regio V
- Private access to the Cave of Sejanus (Grotta di Seiano) and the adjoining Villa of Pausilypon with its dramatic coastal views

Day One | London - Cava de'Tirreni

We fly to Italy and transfer to our hotel.

Day Two | Cava de'Tirreni - Paestum

Today begins with a visit ot **Paestum**, where after lunch we visit the **museum** and its magnificent **Store Rooms**.

Day Three | Pompeii

We devote the entire day to **Pompeii**. We visit some of the most well-preserved buildings as well as an amphitheatre, theatre, forum, bath-houses, bars, and brothels.

Day Four | Naples - Pozzuoli

Our first visit of the day is to the **National Archaeological Museum** in Naples, then onto **Pozzuoli's ampitheatre**. Later, we are granted private access to the **Cave of Sejanus**, an impressive tunnel dating to the age of Augustus,

Day Five | Stabiae

We visit the **Villa San Marco and Arianna** this morning. In the afternoon at the **Archaeological**

Museum of Castellammare di Stabia Libero D'Orsi where we will see a large number of important items found in the region of Stabia.

Day Six | Herculaneum

This seaside city was buried to a significantly greater depth than Pompeii — under 23 metres of pyroclastic to be exact — perfectly preserving every-day objects as well as houses up to their rooftops. After lunch we travel to the **Villa Sora in Torre del Greco**, where we have special access to a fine residence.

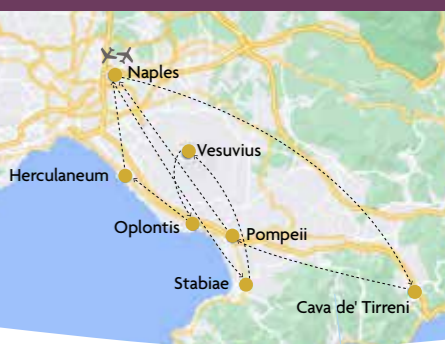
Day Seven | Vesuvius - Oplontis

Today, we ascend to the great volcanic crater of **Vesuvius**. After lunch, we will continue on to the impressive villa at Oplontis, which boasts sumptuous frescoes, a bath complex, an enormous swimming pool, and interesting slave quarters.

Day Eight | Naples - London

We travel back to London today.

Activity Level ●●●○○



Guided by Tony O'Connor
Join Tony on our 4th September departure.



Guided by John Shepherd
Join John on our 2nd October departure.



Guided by Dr Doru Bogdan
Join Doru on our 30th October departure.

Price 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 Scapolatiello (4th Sep & 2nd Oct) & Hotel Forum (30th Oct) or similar

Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

Dates & prices per person

Date		Twin/Dbl Share	SS
FULL	4th - 11th Sep	£2,945	£0
FULL	2nd - 9th Oct	£2,895	£0
	30th Oct - 6th Nov	£2,695	£0

For full details of this tour visit
andantetravels.co.uk/apom

Florence

Heart of the Renaissance & the Rediscovery of Rome


6 DAYS From £2,795pp Departing September

Discover how Florence, a small Roman settlement prone to annual flooding, became the powerhouse of the Renaissance and the greatest city in Europe. Join us as we trace the development of this unique city, admire its exquisite art and architecture, including the Medici chapel, Baptistery and the wonderful Basilica of Santa Croce.

- Tour Highlights**
- Explore the Etruscan Temple, Roman theatre and bath complex at Fiesole
 - Visit the National Archaeological Museum, renowned for its significant Etruscan collection
 - Discover world class art at Florence's incomparable musea, including the Uffizzi and Accademia with pre booked entrance times to avoid the queues



Activity Level ●●●○○



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

Price 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 at Hotel Berchielli or similar

Culinary inclusions

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

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
27th Sep - 2nd Oct	£2,795	£535

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/aflo

Hidden Rome

Special visit to the Mithraeum of the Circus Maximus

7 DAYS From £3,395pp Departing October

Rome is the pivotal city of Europe, a capital that has dominated the history of the last two millennia. This tour will take you to some of Rome's greatest monuments and also to some of its most secret, from catacombs to tombs and from temples to villas. It offers a rare chance to see the Imperial City from a whole new point of view – one that most visitors will never get to see.

- Tour Highlights**
- Explore the underground ruins of Nero's infamous Golden House, a revolution in architecture and luxurious design
 - Pay a visit to the wonderfully preserved port city of Ostia Antica, which kept the capital of an Empire both fed and supplied
 - Drive along the Appian Way, visiting the Villa of the Quintili and also the Circus of Maxentius



Activity Level ●●●○○



Guided by Prof. Valerie Higgins
Valerie is currently Associate Professor of Archaeology and Program Director for Sustainable Cultural Heritage at The American University of Rome.

Price 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 or similar

Culinary inclusions

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

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
20th - 26th Oct	£3,395	£178

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/ahro

Lake Garda & the Cities of Veneto

Romans to the Renaissance

8 DAYS From £2,895pp Departing October

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.

- Tour Highlights**
- 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



Activity Level ●●●○○ **NEW FOR 2023**



Guided by Tony O'Connor
Tony graduated in Ancient History and Archaeology from Manchester University, specialising in the Roman Empire and the Phoenicians.

Price 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 Sirmione

Culinary inclusions

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

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
7th - 14th Oct	£2,895	£445

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/alga

Romans on the Bay of Naples

New discoveries and highlights in the shadow of Vesuvius

8 DAYS From £2,825pp Departing October & November

The extraordinary Roman sites in the Bay of Naples have undergone an incredible regeneration in recent years. This beautiful stretch of coast, which was developed in the Roman era by elites and emperors in search of leisure, has witnessed exciting new archaeological activities, as well as an unprecedented number of newly opened sites. While much attention has been given to the wonderful new excavations of Pompeii, much less has been said about the opening of new sections of Herculaneum, the opening of Roman sites in Positano and Boscoreale, and the excavations taking place in Terzigno and Somma Vesuviana. This tour offers a fresh take of Romans in the Bay of Naples, taking into consideration these new discoveries and sites, and offering an up-to-date examination of this prosperous and beautiful part of the ancient world. There has never been a better time to visit the towns in the shadow of Vesuvius with the advantage of it being a less crowded time of year.

- Tour Highlights**
- Examine the newly opened Regio V in Pompeii
 - Explore the newly opened Roman Villa at Positano, with its wonderful frescoes
 - Visit the newly opened Museum at Terzigno, which houses incredible remains of newly excavated villas
 - A private visit to the Villa Augustea in Somma Vesuviana, which was destroyed in the eruption of AD 472 and is still being excavated



ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT PLACES AVAILABLE

Activity Level ●●●○○

Guided by John Shepherd
Join John on our 30th October departure.

Guided by Tony Wilmott
Join Tony on our 13th November departure.

Price 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 Scapolatiello or similar

Culinary inclusions

- 7 breakfasts, 5 lunches & 7 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
FULL 30th Oct - 6th Nov	£2,905	£0
13th - 20th Nov	£2,805	£0

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/arbn



EXTRA DEPARTURE
DATE ADDED*

ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
PLACES AVAILABLE

Puglia & Basilicata

Discover the extraordinary Sassi di Matera

9 DAYS

From £3,845pp

Departing September & October

Both geographically and culturally, the southernmost 'heel' of Italy offers a diversity unmatched elsewhere in the south. This sunny, dry region, dotted with dazzling white villages, was once fought over by the Greeks, Romans, Normans, Swabians and Angevins, all of whom lived and prospered here and left the marks of their passing upon the landscape forever.

Tour Highlights

- Discover the charming white-washed *trulli* of UNESCO-listed Alberobello
- Tour ancient Matera, setting for Mel Gibson's *Passion of the Christ* and 2019's European Capital of Culture
- Experience the wonderful Baroque city of Lecce and its many historic sites
- Pay a visit to Castel del Monte, the most spectacular castle in all of southern Italy

Day One | London - Lecce

We arrive into Puglia from London and drive to Lecce. Time permitting, we will have an introductory stroll around the city.

Day Two | Lecce - Otranto

We begin our day in **Lecce** visiting some of the churches and the amphitheatre of the Roman city of Lupiae. Next, we enjoy a private visit to the **Roca Vecchia Archaeological Park**, and then its on to the the seaside city of **Otranto**. Here, we visit the cathedral and the Byzantine Church of San Pietro.

Day Three | Egnatia - Alberobello

We explore the ancient site of **Egnatia** and then we continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Alberobello**.

Day Four | Matera

We devote our day to **Matera**, the European Capital of Culture for 2019. We begin with an exploration of the extraordinary Sassi of Matera, a network of rock-cut cave dwellings and frescoed Byzantine churches. Free time follows this afternoon.

Day Five | Massafra - Taranto

Today we drive to **Massafra** to explore this lesser-known city, which is home to cave dwellings

and wonderful Byzantine churches replete with frescoes. We continue to **Taranto**, to explore the outstanding **National Archaeological Museum**, one of the most important in all of Italy.

Day Six | Metapontum - Gioia del Colle

This morning we head to **Metapontum**, one of the most opulent cities in Magna Graecia. We visit the **Temple of Hera** before continuing on to Gioia del Colle to see the wonderful castle rebuilt by Frederick II. As well as the castle itself, we will also explore the **National Archaeological Museum**.

Day Seven | Castel del Monte - Trani

We visit **Castel del Monte** to see the spectacular 13th century hunting lodge of the Emperor Frederick II. The afternoon is spent in **Trani** where we visit the exquisite cathedral.

Day Eight | Venosa - Melfi

We travel to **Venosa** to visit the 12th century abbey of the Holy Trinity, which houses an important Norman tomb. Next, we explore the Roman site of **Venusia** before continuing to **Melfi** to visit an impressive Norman castle, which is home to the **National Archaeological Museum**.

Day Nine | Trani - London

After breakfast, we catch our flight to London.

Activity Level ●●●●○



Guided by Dr Jamie Sewell

Join Jamie on our 26th September departure.



Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall

Join Eireann on our 22nd October departure.

Price 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 Grand Hotel di Lecce, Hotel San Domenico al Piano di Matera and the Giardino degli Ulivi Resort & Spa or the Hotel San Paolo or similar

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
FULL 26th Sep - 4th Oct	£3,995	£320
*22nd - 30th Oct	£3,845	£0

Please note the order of the itinerary on the new 22nd Oct departure date will differ, visit the website page for details.

For full details of this tour visit
andantetravels.co.uk/abap

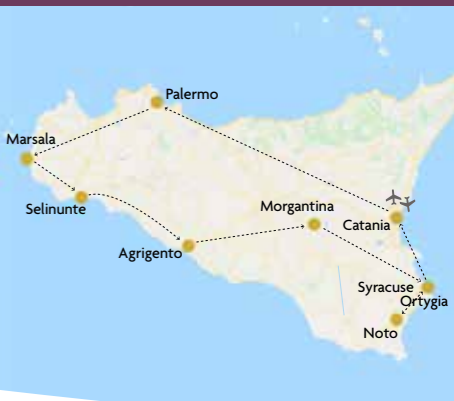
Image: The ancient Sassi di Matera & Alberobello



Looking for a longer break?

The September departure of this tour can be booked back-to-back with our tour of Albania & Macedonia (p24). Save £150pp when booking both tours together.

Activity Level ●●●○○



Guided by Dr Gillian Shepherd

Join Gillian on our 28th September departure.



Guided by Dr Jamie Sewell

Join Jamie on our 19th October departure.

Price 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 Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa, Hotel Carmine, Hotel Costazzura and Grande Albergo Alfeo

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
28th Sep - 7th Oct	£4,295	£495
19th - 28th Oct	£4,295	£495

For full details of this tour visit
andantetravels.co.uk/asic

Classical Sicily

Special access to the glittering Cappella Palatina

10 DAYS

From £4,295pp

Departing September & October

The largest island in the Mediterranean, Sicily arguably has the richest history of any region in Italy. The classically beautiful heart of the Mediterranean has been praised by poets and became the prize of countless cultures - Phoenicians, Greeks & Romans and later the Normans. During the Greek and later the Norman periods, Sicily was the creative centre of philosophy, art and learning.

This trip showcases the wonderful monuments from all the cultures which found their homes on Sicily. We explore the Normano-Arabic churches of Palermo, alongside some of the best preserved Greek temples in the world – and the most important late antique villa in Italy.

Tour Highlights

- Admire truly exceptional mosaics at the Villa Romana, Piazza Armerina
- See the Cathedral at Monreale which is covered in opulent mosaics
- Discover the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Enjoy a special access evening visit to view the stunning mosaics at Cappella Palatina

Day One | London - Catania

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

Day Two | Segesta - Monreale

Today we explore the ancient Greek city of **Segesta** and then its on to the UNESCO-listed site of **Monreale** with its Byzantine Cathedral.

Day Three | Palermo

We visit the **Archaeological Museum, La Martorana, Chiesa di San Cataldo, Palermo Cathedral** and enjoy a private visit to the **Cappella Palatina**.

Day Four | Marsala - Motya

This morning we drive to **Marsala** to visit its museum. After lunch we cross by boat to **Motya** where we visit the **Archaeological Museum**.

Day Five | Selinus

We start the day at the quarries of the **Cave di Cusa**. We then travel on to **Selinus** to see the temples and the **Acropolis of Selinus**.

Day Six | Agrigento

We spend the day exploring the remains of **Agrigento**, including the **Valley of the Temples** and the remains of the **Temple of Olympian Zeus**.

Day Seven | Piazza Armerina - Morgantina

We visit the **Villa Romana del Casale in Piazza Armerina** and then we proceed to **Morgantina**.

Day Eight | Syracuse

Today we explore the exceptional **Paolo Orsi Archaeological Museum**. Later, we visit the **Neapolis Archaeological Park** and enjoy a walk around **Ortygia**.

Day Nine | Ortigia - Noto

Enjoy some free time in **Ortygia** and then we continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Noto**. Next, we visit the late Roman Villa of **Tellaro**.

Day Ten | Catania - London

We catch our flight home to London.

Image: La Martorana

To book a tour today visit andantetravels.co.uk or call 01722 671 672



Imperial Majesty in Ravenna & Venice

Last bastions of the Byzantine Empire in northern Italy

8 DAYS

From £3,750pp

Departing November

The last capital of the western Roman Empire, Ravenna was reconquered by Justinian and became the seat of an Exarchate, which also included Venice, whose connection to the east made it powerful. The result was an unparalleled collection of Byzantine art, with its unique domed architecture and shimmering mosaics.

- Tour Highlights**
- Enjoy two exclusive private evening visits to the Byzantine Basilicas of San Vitale and San Marco
 - An exclusive private visit to the Biblioteca Marciana, famed for its collection of Byzantine manuscripts
 - Explore the unique Basilicas of Santa Maria Assunta in Torcello and Santa Maria e Donato in Murano

Day One | London - Bologna - Ravenna
We fly to Bologna and upon arrival will make our way to Ravenna, where we have an orientation walk, time permitting.

Day Two | Ravenna
This morning we start our exploration of Ravenna with a series of superb monuments, including the **Arian Baptistery**, the **Neonian Baptistery**, **Ravenna Cathedral**, and the **Archbishop's Palace**. In the afternoon we visit the 4th century **Church of San Giovanni Evangelista**.

Day Three | Ravenna
We begin at **Theodoric's Palace** and the **Basilica di Sant' Apollinare Nuovo** before going to the **Basilica di San Francesco**. Later, we visit the **Domus dei Tappeti di Pietra** and the **National Museum**. This evening we have a private visit to the **Basilica di San Vitale** and the **Mausoleum of Galla Placidia**.

Day Four | Ravenna
We drive to the **Mausoleum of Theodoric** and later we explore the ancient port of **Classe**. In the afternoon we continue to the stunning **Basilica of Sant' Apollinare** in Classe with its Byzantine mosaics.

Day Five | Ravenna - Venice
Today we travel by coach by to Venice, last bastion

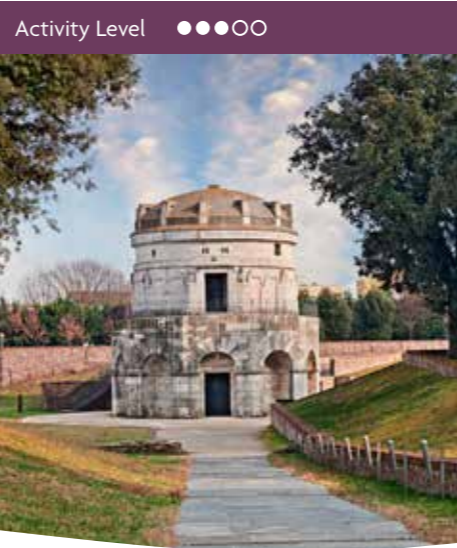
of Byzantium after the fall of Constantinople. In the afternoon we explore the extraordinary **Piazza San Marco**, which is dominated by the Eastern looking Basilica di San Marco.

Day Six | Venice
We explore the beginnings of Venice, starting with the island of **Torcello**, where we see the **Basilica di Santa Maria Assunta** with its stunning Byzantine mosaics. After lunch, we visit **Burano** before venturing to **Murano** where we visit its **Basilica di Santa Maria e Donato**.

Day Seven | Venice
The day starts with a private visit to the **Biblioteca Marciana**, famed for its ancient manuscripts, and then we continue to the **Chiesa di San Giorgio dei Greci** and the **Icon Museum**. After lunch, we have a guided tour of the **Doge's Palace** before having a private evening visit at the **Basilica of San Marco**.

Day Eight | Venice - London
This morning we return to the airport in Venice by water taxi, giving our farewell to the lagoon and its Byzantine heritage. We catch our return flight back to London from here.

Looking for a longer break?
This tour's November departure can be booked back-to-back with our 19th October Classical Sicily departure (p9).



Guided by Oliver Gilkes
Join Oliver on our 1st November departure.

Price 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 Ravenna & Venice

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
1st - 8th Nov	£3,750	£660

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/arvv



50% OFF SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Highlights of Pompeii

An unbeatable introduction to ordinary Roman life

5 DAYS

From £1,825pp

Departing November

The sites of the Bay of Naples confront the modern visitor with a vivid, haunting immediacy like nothing else in the ancient world. Our expert Guide Lecturer will bring to life the ordinary people of Pompeii and Herculaneum, and we will walk these ancient streets, following in the ill-fated footsteps of gladiators, slaves, senators and citizens.

- Tour Highlights**
- Discover the ancient neighbouring town of Herculaneum
 - Spend a full day in Pompeii and wander among its ancient ruins
 - Soak up the atmosphere of iconic sites at a time when they are less crowded
 - Visit the Archaeological Museum in Naples, home to truly extraordinary finds from the local area

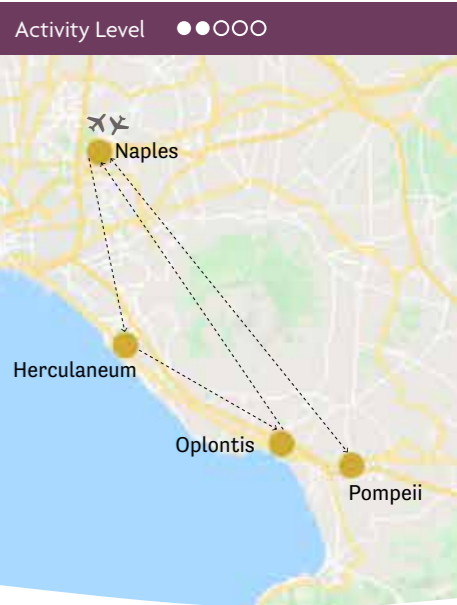
Day One | London - Naples
We fly to Naples and travel to our hotel.

Day Two | Pompeii
We devote a whole day to **Pompeii**, exploring the streets and buildings here. This is a whole Roman town, with a complete wall circuit and two thirds of the site excavated, an area of around 67 hectares. It contains the story of a fairly ordinary Roman town in the 1st century AD, from its houses, bars and brothels to the graffiti scrawled on its walls. Travelling via the best routes to avoid the inevitable crowds, we visit houses that have only recently reopened to members of the public.

Day Three | Herculaneum
Today we explore **Herculaneum**, an opulent, seaside town buried by a pyroclastic surge that raised the ground by 25 metres. Here, we see shutters just barely open and view furniture in a house arranged as it would have been. Walking through the tunnel to what was once the seashore where hundreds of bodies have been found huddled in the bathhouse is an unforgettable experience. After lunch we head to Naples where we have some free time to explore the city – take a tour of underground Naples or wander around the Via dei Tribunali.

Day Four | Naples
The **Naples Archaeological Museum** houses the extraordinary finds from the excavations from the Vesuvian towns, as well as from other cities in Bay of Naples. Exquisite bronze statues, such as those found in the Villa of the Papyri, which would normally have been melted down and reused; marble statues which would have been broken up to make lime for fertiliser; beautiful wall paintings which would have decayed or plastered over – all would have been lost had Vesuvius not erupted and buried them all. Highlights include the stunning mosaics from the House of the Faun, including the Alexander mosaic skilfully crafted with minute tesserae. See also the unique collection of frescoes, such as the so called Sappho or the portrait of Terentius Neo and his wife. We finish the day with a visit to the Villa Maritima at **Oplontis**, which might have belonged the family of Poppaea, wife of Nero. Here we see stunningly preserved frescoes which were being refurbished at the time of the eruption, as well as remarkably well preserved slave quarters which allow us a glimpse into a Roman household.

Day Five | Naples - London
After breakfast, our tour comes to an end and we catch our return flight back to London.



Guided by Dr Jamie Sewell
Join Jamie on our 12th November departure.

Price 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 Forum or similar

Culinary inclusions

- 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches & 4 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
12th - 16th Nov	£1,895	£128

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/asbp

Greece

Home to sun-bleached ruins and renowned for being the setting for legendary myths known the world over, Greece is perhaps the ultimate destination for the archaeological traveller.

While it may be a familiar destination to many, we offer unique and innovative itineraries that are often imitated but never matched. Choose one of the tours among the following pages and you will learn that this country is, to some extent, a product of its environment and geology. Throughout its vast and rich history, its vertiginous mountain ranges and mysterious landscapes were imbued with the divine, from the Vale of Tempe, associated with Apollo and the Muses, to Dodona and Delphi, dedicated to Zeus and Apollo respectively, just as Meteora became home to hermit monks who made their home in these isolated mountains to feel closer to God.

This country is also home to several famously beautiful island groups, including the Dodecanese and the Cyclades, whose importance lies far beyond their stunning sun-kissed seascapes. Located at the crossroads between Europe and Asia Minor, as well as Africa and the Near East, it was through the Aegean islands that prosperity and cultural development was brought to Greece, starting with the Bronze Age Cycladic culture, as well as the staggering Minoan culture in Crete, which can justly be called the first significant culture in Europe.

The Hellenic rebirth in the Archaic period, instigated through its contact with Egypt and the Phoenicians, gave rise to a Greece which can justly be called the cradle of Europe, because so much of what defined Rome, and from thence Europe, was first developed here. Surveying the magnificent Classical sites found in Athens, Olympia and Corinth becomes a kind of pilgrimage in which the pages of Herodotus and Thucydides come to life, and we arrive at an understanding of where we have come from.



ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
PLACES AVAILABLE

The Ancient Argolid

An archaeological treasure house

7 DAYS **From £2,895pp** Departing October

Enjoy a relaxed exploration of the lives and landscapes of Greeks, gods and heroes, in the place where myth and archaeology meet. Join us and discover the Argolid in the eastern Peloponnese. Our fascinating tour ends in Athens at the National Museum, where we see artefacts that once furnished and graced the sites we visit across the previous days, and which belonged to the victors who once walked those hills of the Argolid.

- Tour Highlights**
- Explore the land of Homer's heroes and the great bronze citadels from which they came
 - Visit the lesser known, quieter sites of the Argolid as well as the big-ticket names
 - Enjoy a prolonged stay in Nafplion, one of the prettiest harbour towns in Greece

Day One | London - Athens
We fly to Athens and drive to our hotel in Nafplion.

Day Two | Nafplion & Asine
Our day begins at the **Archaeological Museum** in Nafplion, where we see artefacts from regional excavations that include extraordinary Mesolithic finds and objects from Bronze Age settlements, as well as later Classical and Hellenistic items. We drive to **Tiryns**, whose cyclopean walls made it one of the most notable fortresses of Mycenaean Greece, reputedly the birthplace of Heracles. We continue to the ruins at **Asine**, mentioned by Homer as part of the kingdom of Diomedes, King of Argos. We also visit the 16th century **Palmidi Fort**, perched on a crag 200ft above the Argolic Gulf.

Day Three | Prossymna & Mycenae
Today we drive to the ancient Mycenaean citadel and palace at Prossymna and walk along the original road to the citadel at **Mycenae**. This is the centre of the mighty Helladic Bronze Age civilisation of Greece, according to legend the capital of King Agamemnon. Visit the museum, the famous shaft and Tholos tombs, including the treasury of Atreus.

Day Four | Lena & Argos Museum
We explore **Lerna**, which in antiquity was a region of water springs and one of the entrances to the underworld. We round off the morning with a visit

to the **Argos Museum** with collections from the region. This afternoon will be spent at leisure.

Day Five | Midea & Nemea
Our morning starts at **Midea**, considered one the three most important Bronze Age fortresses in the region alongside Mycenae and Tiryns. We continue to **Dendra**, which appears to have been associated with the site, and we visit the cemetery and Tholos tomb here. We explore the **Argive Heraion**, an evocative site where we easily imagine the processions described by ancient authors traversing the vast tracts of surrounding countryside. We drive to **Nemea**, where Heracles slew the Nemean lion.

Day Six | Epidauros - Athens
We start our journey north, stopping to see the extraordinary Mycenaean road bridge at **Ligortino**. We also visit **Epidauros**, home to the sanctuary of Asklepios – its core is formed by the finest theatre in all of Greece. We complete our visits at Troezen, the birthplace of Theseus, before proceeding to the Island of Poros for lunch. After lunch we take the fast ferry to Pireaus and transfer to our hotel.

Day Seven | Athens - London
We visit the **National Archaeological Museum** in Athens to see its fine collections before transferring to the airport for our flights back to London.



Guided by Dr Rita Roussos
A native Athenian, Rita taught archaeology and art history at the American University of Athens. She has worked on archaeological projects in Isthmia, Kato, Lousous and Mantinea.

- Price 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 Nafplion & Athens

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db Share	SS
2nd - 8th Oct	£2,895	£0

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/apes



The Peloponnese

Homer and beyond

12 DAYS From £4,495pp Departing September

Embark on a modern-day odyssey to the sites of ancient Greece. Beginning in Athens, journey into the Peloponnesian hills, joining our expert Guide Lecturer as we trace the story of Greece from the Bronze Age to Classical glory. This will be a memorable trip for anyone who has ever dreamed of standing at the starting line of the Olympics, debating with Socrates or following in the footsteps of Hercules.

- Tour Highlights**
- 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

Day One | London - Athens

Today we fly from London to Athens and drive to our hotel upon arrival.

Day Two | Athens

We spend an entire day on foot in ancient **Athens**. According to legend the city was founded by King Theseus, best known for his Minotaur slaying heroics in Crete. We climb up to the **Acropolis** to visit the **Parthenon**, **Theatre of Dionysus** and **Temple of Athena**. The most important structures visible today derive from the Golden Age of Pericles. The afternoon is spent at the **Acropolis Museum**, which was built to house every artefact found at the Acropolis.

Day Three | Athens - Delphi

We continue our exploration of Athens with a walk through the sites of the **Agora**, the political and commercial heart of ancient Athens, where Socrates stood trial and where free-born male Athenian citizens could come to cast their vote. We view finds from the area in the **Museum of the Ancient Agora**, housed in the reconstructed Stoa of Attalos. After lunch, we enjoy our first drive through the Peloponnesian hills to our hotel at Delphi.

Day Four | Delphi - Olympia

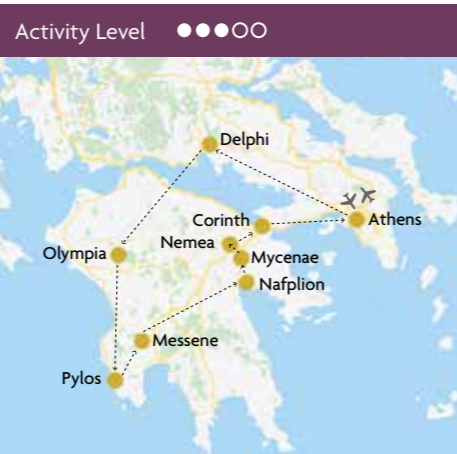
Spend a day at the **Panhellenic Sanctuary at Delphi**. The oracle was given by a priestess called the Pythia, who sat on a tripod over a chasm in the inner sanctum and, inhaling the vapours that came from it, subsequently uttered prophecies in a trance. We leave in the early afternoon, crossing the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

Day Five | Olympia

This morning we explore **Olympia**, home of the first and greatest Panhellenic Games and the most important religious centre in the 8th century BC. Here we find the ruins of the ancient stadium, and temples such as the **Pelopion**, once the alleged tomb of Pelops, the mythical chariot-racing king who gave this region its name. The major festivals here provided opportunities for the meeting of representatives from the Greek states.

Day Six | Olympia - Pylos

Today starts with a visit to the **Archaeological Museum of Chora**, which houses finds from 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 here is the best preserved Mycenaean palatial structure excavated and includes reception areas, baths, store rooms and workshops. Enjoy a free afternoon in Pylos with an optional boat trip in the bay (not included).

Day Seven | Pylos - Messene - Nafplion

We spend the morning in **Messene**, one of the most beautiful ancient cities in Greece. Pausanias visited the city between 155 and 160 AD and described it in his 'Guide to Greece'. Excavations in the city have continued for over a century, revealing a well-preserved stadium, odeon and many other buildings. We view a great array of finds from the area in 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 lunch we continue with a visit to the ancient site of **Epidaurus**, a celebrated centre of healing in the ancient world. Perched on the slopes of a hill, the town has both some



"The tour was perfect. The staff were the best I've ever travelled with, and the food was great."
Mr Collette, September 2022

of the finest examples of 14th and 15th century architecture in Greece, and some of the finest views. The afternoon is free to spend at your own leisure in Nafplion.

Day Nine | Nafplion - Mycenae

We explore the great Bronze Age hilltop site of **Mycenae**, another major hub of Greek civilisation, and, according to Greek tradition, capital of legendary King Agamemnon. Excavations support Homer's claim of a city 'well built and rich in gold'. We wander into the city with its Cyclopean walls through the famous **Lion Gate** and we view the archaeological remains of the acropolis, including

the palace and the grave circles, where the so-called mask of Agamemnon was found.

Day Ten | Nemea - Tiryns

This morning, we visit the site of **Nemea** where, according to legend, Heracles fought the Nemean Lion. We see the **Temple of Zeus**. After lunch we will continue to the archaeological site of **Tiryns**, a Mycenaean hillfort said to have been the mythical birthplace of Heracles. We will see the citadel with its Cyclopean walls as well as the palace remains.

Day Eleven | Corinth - Athens

We drive to **Corinth**, which owed its prosperity to the isthmus that joins the Peloponnese to the

mainland. One of the great cities of classical Greece, it was founded by Corinthos, a descendent of the god Helios, according to Hellenic myth. Upon arrival in Athens, we will view the **National Archaeological Museum** in Athens with its fantastic collections.

Day Twelve | Athens - London

Our Peloponnesian odyssey comes to an end. We bid farewell to the city of Athens and catch our return flight back to London.



Guided by Dr Rita Roussos
A native Athenian, Rita taught archaeology and art history at the American University of Athens. She has worked on archaeological projects in Isthmia, Kato, Lossous and Mantinea.

- Price 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/Db'l Share	SS
18th - 29th Sep	£4,495	£595

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/apel



Crete - From West to East

Chania to Sitia

10 DAYS	From £3,525pp	Departing September
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Crete is defined by the breadth of its history, from the labyrinthine palaces of the Minoans, through Venetian control and to wartime resistance. We follow the coastline, exploring world-class archaeological sites and getting to grips with local history and culture as we enjoy the food, wine and dramatic landscapes of this beautiful island.

Tour Highlights

- Travel to stunning Sissi to visit the excavations on Kephali Hill
- Discover the lesser-known archaeological remains of Vathypetro and Mochlos, as well as the famous Minoan palaces
- Explore Aptera, the mythological setting for the battle between the Sirens and the Muses

Day One | London - Chania
We fly to Chania and transfer to our hotel.

Day Two | Chania
We explore the harbour town of **Chania** amd its **Archaeological Museum**. Later, we enjoy a walking tour of its pretty Venetian quarter.

Day Three | Kissamos - Phalasarna
Today we visit **Kissamos Archaeological Museum**, the ancient city of **Polyrhenia** and the Hellenistic town of **Phalasarna**.

Day Four | Aptera - Heraklion
We begin at **Aptera** to see the remains of a 12th century monastery dedicated to St. John Theologos, as well as the remains of a Classical temple and an impressive Roman cistern. From here, we head to **Heraklion**, stopping en route to explore the new **Museum of Eleutherna in Rethymnon**.

Day Five | Knossos - Vathypetro
This morning we visit the world-famous site of **Knossos**. Later today we visit two important museums, the **Archaeological Museum of Archanes** and the **Heraklion Museum**, with its exquisite jewellery and brightly-coloured wall paintings.

Day Six | Gortyn - Ayia Triadh
We start at the important Graeco-Roman site of

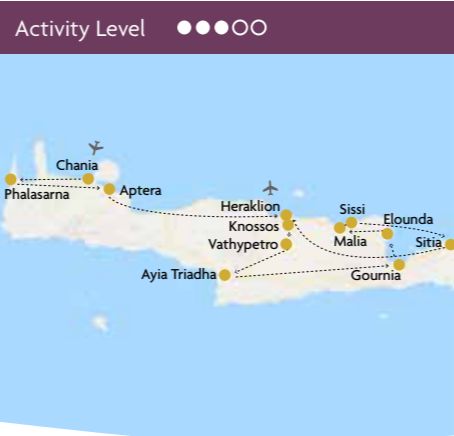
Gortyn, which contains a number of impressive ruins. We proceed to **Phaistos** before ending the day at **Ayia Triadh**, a small palace that has preserved a number of Linear A tablets.

Day Seven | Gournia - Elounda
This morning we explore the well-preserved late Minoan town of **Gournia**, whose strategic position made it the most important trading centre in Minoan Crete. Later, we go by boat to the tiny island of **Mochlos**, home to a Minoan necropolis.

Day Eight | Sissi - Spinalonga
Today we visit the nearby site of **Sissi**, which has been excavated for the last 10 years, revealing settlements from the early and middle Minoan periods. The afternoon is free for us to relax or take a boat trip to **Spinalonga** island.

Day Nine | Sitia
We travel east to the seaside town of **Sitia**, where we visit the **Archaeological Museum**. We proceed to the nearby site of **Petr**, excavated as part of ongoing research to establish the Minoan settlement patterns in this area.

Day Ten | Heraklion - London
This morning we visit the **Palace of Malia**, which included a late Minoan palace. We then continue to Heraklion airport to fly back to London.



Activity Level ●●●○○

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

Price 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 & Elounda

Culinary inclusions

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

Date	Twin/Db Share	SS
26th Sep - 5th Oct	£3,525	£590

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/acrn



Crete & Santorini

Rise and fall of the Minoan civilisation

8 DAYS	From £2,955pp	Departing September & October
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The Minoans are known for their incredible labyrinthine palaces - the greatest of which is at Knossos, where Theseus defeated the Minotaur. Our journey across these two beautiful islands will showcase the architectural and artistic skills of this Bronze Age civilisation, whose writing, ambition and organisation profoundly influenced ancient Greece's development.

Tour Highlights

- 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

Day One | London - Santorini
We fly to Santorini and transfer to our hotel.

Day Two | Fira & Akrotiri
We begin at the **Prehistoric Museum in Fira**, home to dazzling wall paintings from the Minoan buildings at Akrotiri. Later, we continue to **Akrotiri** itself.

Day Three | Thera - Heraklion
After breakfast we head to the ancient city of **Thera**. This afternoon we visit **Panagia Episkopi**, a Byzantine cathedral containing many beautiful frescoes, before a catamaran ride takes us to Heraklion.

Day Four | Palace of Knossos & Vathypetro
Our day starts with a visit 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. Later today we visit two important Museums, the **Archaeological Museum of Archanes** and the exceptional **Heraklion Museum**, with its exquisite jewellery and brightly-coloured wall paintings.

Day Five | Palace of Phaistos & Gortyn
We enjoy a morning at the columns and courtyards

of **Phaistos** to visit Ayia Triada, a grand but ruinous Bronze Age villa that has yielded more examples of Linear A tablets than any other site of its kind. After this we travel to the the magnificent **Palace of Phaistos**. Finally, we explore the Greco-Roman site of **Gortyn** in the verdant Messara Valley, a gem of the archaeological world since its discovery in 1884.

Day Six | Palace of Malia - Gournia
Our day starts with a trip to the **Palace of Malia**, a huge Minoan complex. We then proceed to the well-preserved late Minoan town of **Gournia**. This afternoon we have the option of a boat trip to the haunting and evocative island of **Spinalonga**.

Day Seven | Mochlos
This morning, if the weather permits, we have the option to journey by fishing boat to the tiny island of **Mochlos**, on which an important Minoan town once stood.

Day Eight | Sissi - London
This may well be our last morning in Crete, but the discoveries aren't over yet. Before we make our journey to the airport, we drive to stunning **Sissi** to visit the excavations on Kephali Hill.



Guided by Dr Christina Hatzimichael-Whitley
Join Christina on our 19th September departure.

Guided by Dr Rita Roussos
Join Rita in on our 10th October departure.

Price 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

Date	Twin/Db Share	SS
FULL 19th - 26th Sep	£3,195	£395
10th - 17th Oct	£2,955	£345

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/acre



Classical Highlights of Greece

A two-night Athens stay and a seven-night cruise

10 DAYS

From £3,995pp

Departing November

A wonderfully laid-back introduction to the ancient highlights of Greece's mainland, this tour combines a two-night stay in the shadow of the Acropolis with an enchanting cruise, circumnavigating the Peloponnese and closing the loop with a transit of the Corinth Canal. Included excursions range from tours of Epidaurus and Delphi to visits to fascinating museums filled with incredible artefacts.

Tour Highlights

- Visit the ancient site of Epidaurus, renowned throughout the Greek world as a healing sanctuary
- Explore the Palace of Nestor, the best-preserved complex of its kind from the late Bronze Age
- Discover Olympia and visit the ancient stadium as well as the temples of Zeus and Hera, and the excellent museum dedicated to the Olympic Games
- Enjoy a walking tour of Nafplion, wander around the remains of the Bronze Age city of Mycenae and take in the natural splendour of the Dirou Caves

Day One | London - Athens

We fly to Athens and transfer to our hotel, located in the very heart of the Greek capital, and enjoy our first dinner together as a group.

Day Two | Athens

A full-day walking tour takes in the ancient wonders on our doorstep, as a local expert introduces the sublime collection of temples – most famously the **Parthenon** – that comprise the Acropolis, and the extraordinary antiquities now on display in the state-of-the-art **Acropolis Museum**.

Day Three | Athens – Corinth Port - Itea

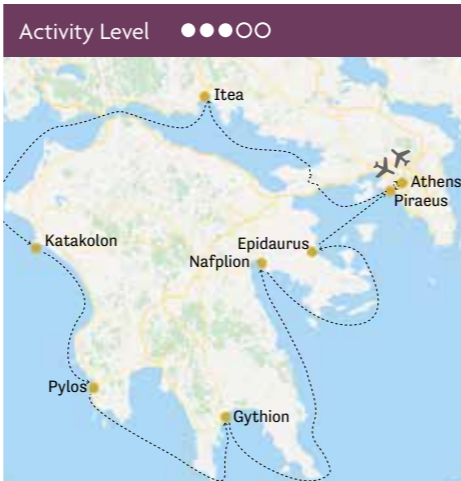
This morning we head on foot to **Agora** – once the city's market centre, seat of government, mint, trial courts, and site of the best-preserved temple of Hephaistus, as well as the beautifully reconstructed Stoa Attalos, which is now the **Agora Museum**. After a light lunch, we proceed to the port of Corinth to be welcomed aboard MY Galileo. There is time to settle in and get acquainted with our new surroundings before a welcome dinner is served. The ship sails overnight to Itea.

Day Four | Itea (Delphi)

Today's included excursion takes us to **Delphi**, one of the most sacred sites of the ancient world. Unlike other archaeological sites in Greece, Delphi is built on the side of a mountain. First time visitors are awed as much for the stunning natural beauty that surround the ruins as for the ancient buildings themselves. In its prime, Delphi was revered for its wealth and reputation, attributes which grew from the site's location as hosting the most important oracle in the classical world. Indeed, because everything in Greece is connected to mythology, Delphi became the premier site for the worship of the god Apollo. The oracle had the ability to prophecy the future and give advice. Visitors from across the Greek world travelled here to consult with the oracle and responded by offering thanks to Apollo in the form of treasure. We return to the ship for lunch and evening sailing towards Katakolon.

Day Five | Katakolon

Early morning arrival in port of Katakolon, in Pyrgos, which in ancient times was the natural harbour for Ancient Olympia and in the Middle Ages was the



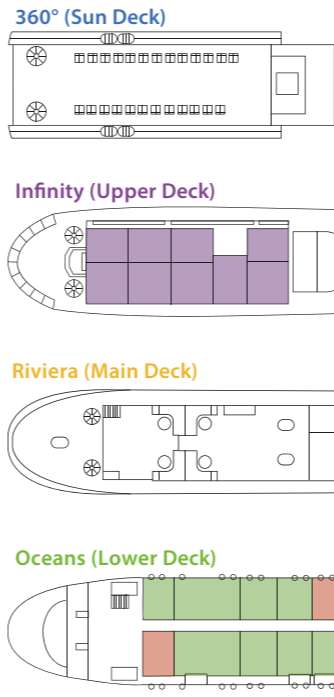
site of the so called "Pontikokastro", or "Beauvoir" or "Bel Vedere" Castle. An optional excursion awaits today, driving to **Olympia**, the legendary site of the original pan-Hellenic Olympic Games. Visit the ancient stadium, the temples of Zeus and Hera, and the museum dedicated to the Olympic Games of antiquity. Late evening the ship departs for Pylos.

Day Six | Pylos

There is an optional excursion to **Pylos** today. Pylos is a picture-perfect seaside town on the southwest corner of the Peloponnese. In 1827 a fleet of Venetians and other city states defeated an Ottoman fleet in one of the most important naval battles in history. This defeat led to the independence of Greece, which occurred in 1829. We sail overnight to Gythion.

Day Seven | Gythion (Mani)

In the morning MS Galileo arrives in **Gythion**. Ancient Gythion was inhabited during prehistoric times and later the Spartans used as a port, enlarging the natural harbour they made Gythion their naval base. There is an included Mani excursion today. Mani is Greece at its wildest and most beguiling. Few land tours can access this



MY Galileo

This mega yacht is of a classic wooden design, 157ft in length, and with the right winds her sails can be spread - an authentic way to cruise the Greek coastline. Facilities include a spacious indoor lounge/bar, a small library and dining area, and the Upper Deck has shaded areas as well as an outdoor bar. Wi-Fi is available in cabins and public areas (payable locally). The 24 ocean view cabins on board are split between the Upper Deck (with large porthole windows) and Lower Deck (with small portholes) and amenities include an ensuite bathroom with shower, air-conditioning, flat-screen TV, mini fridge, internal telephone, safe and hairdryer.



peninsula, immortalised by Patrick Leigh Fermor (and where the writer set up home), but small ships can. Our excursion takes in the natural splendour of Cape Tenaro and the Dirou Caves, along with the charming town of Areopolis. Late evening, we set sail for Monemvasia.

Day Eight | Monemvasia - Nafplion (Mycenae)

An optional **Mycenae** excursion awaits, or you can spend the morning as you wish. After lunch on board, we sail to Nafplion reaching the port in time for dinner and an overnight stay.

Day Nine | Epidaurus

Today is our included **Epidaurus** excursion. Early this morning, we drive to this ancient site, renowned throughout the Greek world as a healing sanctuary. It was reputed to be the birthplace of Apollo's son Asclepius and for its theatre, which is once again in use today. The sanctuary was looted by the Roman general Sulla by pirates and later by Goths and very little remains of it today. The

prosperity brought by the Asclepieion enabled the residents of Epidaurus to construct civic monuments, including a 4th century BCE theatre is breath-taking and acoustically so perfect that even today 13,000 spectators can view performances without any amplification. This evening we enjoy the Captain's Farewell dinner and sail overnight to Marina Zea in Athens.

Day Ten | Marina Zea – Athens – London

We disembark MS Galileo after breakfast and transfer from the port of Athens to the international airport for our return flight 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.

Guided by Expert Local Guide Miranda Spitha in Athens

Having studied archaeology in Italy, Miranda is an officially registered Greek guide from Crete and one of our long-standing Tour Managers.

Guided by Onboard Guest Lecturer Eugenia Alexiou

Born in Athens, Eugenia has a Masters in Byzantine art and an interest in ancient Aegean civilisations.

Price includes

- Expert Local Guide in Athens who also accompanies you onboard the cruise as your Tour Manager
- On board Guest Lecturer and the services of a Cruise Director provided by Variety Cruises
- 3 excursions: Epidaurus, Gythion (Mani & Dirou Caves) & Delphi
- Field Notes
- All taxes (including port taxes) & gratuities

Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

Accommodation

- 2 nights at a hotel in Athens & 7 nights aboard the MY Galileo

Culinary inclusions

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- At hotel: water with all meals, wine, tea or coffee with dinner
- MY Galileo: house wine, local beer and soft drinks are included when lunch and dinner are being served on board. Water, filter coffee and tea are available throughout the day.
- Wine & Fruit in your cabin on arrival

Dates & prices per person

1st – 10th Nov	Twin/DbI Share	SS
Lower Deck - C Cabin size 9.5-10m²	£3,995	£715
Lower Deck - B Cabin size 11-14 m²	£4,195	£920
Upper Deck - A Cabin size 12-13 m²	£4,495	£1,120

The deposit payable on this tour is £1,000pp

Optional Excursions	
• Nafplion/Mycenae	£90pp
• Pylos	£100pp
• Olympia (with lunch)	£150pp

For full details of this tour visit
andantetravels.co.uk/aog

Rest of Europe

With its vast history, Europe offers some of the most varied sites in the world and, archaeologically speaking, is particularly important for its unique collection of Palaeolithic and Neolithic remains in addition to its fine Roman sites. We have a range of European tours on offer, which explore fascinating sites in France, Spain and Malta, along with itineraries in lesser-visited destinations such as Albania. Plus, Morocco and Andalusia separated only by a narrow body of water, is a fascinating tour where Africa and Europe meet.

Where Palaeolithic cave art is concerned, there is a marked concentration of sites in France and Spain, many of which showcase some of the finest art that has ever been produced. Scholars debate, for example, why it is that humans depicted such skillful art in the deepest parts of caves, where there was no light and where it is unlikely that they were often viewed. Then again there are the questions about why humans felt a compulsion to stencil handprints, while not wanting to depict themselves, or whether the geometric symbols seen in many of the caves have specific meanings.

Europe also produces fine archaeological sites dating to the Roman period. As is clear from the wondrous sites in the south of France, the archaeology found in frontier areas and the fabulous remains nestled among the Illyrian coast, Europe has been defined by the brilliant period of prosperity which existed in the time of the Roman empire.



Brittany - Carnac & Beyond

Encounter the world's largest assemblage of megalithic sites

7 DAYS

From £2,965pp

Departing September

Brittany offers a prehistoric landscape filled with some of the world's best megalithic monuments, from standing stones to chambered tombs. A whole day is rightly dedicated to Carnac, where stone rows stud the heather-clad countryside, and we explore passage graves with depictions of weaponry that mark the resting places of a selected few of the wider Neolithic population.

- Tour Highlights**
- Come face-to-face with a selection of fascinating passage graves, chambered tombs and polished axes
 - Devote an entire day to the stunning monuments of historic Carnac
 - Take a ferry to the island of Gavrinis to visit its famous and elaborately decorated passage tomb



Activity Level ●●●○○

Guided by Dr Nick Thorpe

Nick is a Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Winchester.

- Price 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

- Accommodation**
- Accommodation in the Hôtel Les Salines de Thalazur Carnac or similar

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
4th - 10th Sep	£2,965	£555

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/abri

Hidden Paris

Peek beyond the famous landmarks and explore the secret archaeology

6 DAYS

From £2,895pp

Departing October

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.

- Tour Highlights**
- 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



Activity Level ●●●○○

Guided by John Shepherd

A specialist in the study of ancient glass, John has worked extensively in the field in Europe as an archaeologist.

- Price 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

- 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/Dbl Share	SS
15th - 20th Oct	£2,895	£625

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/ahpa



Cruising the Extraordinary Island of Corsica

From the Neolithic Period to the Romans

9 DAYS

From £4,995pp

Departing September

Although it is principally famed for being the birthplace of Napoleon, Corsica has a rich and ancient history which testifies to the important commercial role the island played in antiquity. As is evident from its plentiful archaeological sites, Corsica has been continuously occupied since 6500 BC and has been an important trading site since the Bronze Age.

Tour Highlights

- Visit Nice and its important archaeological remains dating from the Palaeolithic to the Roman
- Visit Filitosa with its spectacular Bronze Age *torri* and wonderful anthropomorphic menhirs, all set in an ancient olive grove
- Explore the off-the-beaten track Bronze Age site of Cucuruzzu, a fortress enclosed by cyclopean walls affording stunning views
- Examine Aleria, the capital of the province in the Roman period, colonised by Greeks and Etruscans

Day One | London - Nice

We fly to Nice and time permitting, we'll have an orientation walk.

Day Two | Nice

We spend the day in Nice. Visits include the Roman site of **Cemelenum**, the **Archaeological Museum**, the **Roman baths and amphitheatre** and the **Terra Amata Archaeological Site**. Later, we drive to the Port of Nice to board our ship.

Day Three | Ajaccio

Cruise across the Ligurian sea to Corsica. **Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We explore the **Fesch Museum**.

Day Four | Ajaccio

We awake in Ajaccio where the ship is docked. In the afternoon, we have some free time in Ajaccio before we make our way to Bonifacio overnight. **Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We explore the extraordinary archaeological site of **Filitosa**.

Day Five | Bonifacio

Dock in Bonifacio before heading to Porto Vecchio.

Exclusive Andante Excursion: We pay a visit to the archaeological site of **Cucuruzzo** and then its on to **Capula**.

Day Six | Porto Vecchio

Having sailed though the night, we dock in Porto Vecchio. In the afternoon we sail to Bastia. **Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We explore the archaeological sites of **Ceccia** and **Tappa**.

Day Seven | Bastia

We dock in Bastia and have an optional visit to the **Museum of Bastia**. Tonight we sail to L'Île Rousse. **Exclusive Andante Excursion:** We visit the Roman site of **Aleria** and the **Jérôme Carcopino Museum**.

Day Eight | L'Île Rousse

On our last morning in Corsica, we land at **L'Île Rousse**. We then drive a short distance to **Calvi** to visit the 13th century fortress. We set sail to Nice this afternoon.

Day Nine | Nice - London

We catch our return flight to London.



Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall

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

Price includes

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Exclusive Andante excursions with entry to all sites as stated in the itinerary
- An excursion to Calvi and its citadel with Croisi Europe, shared with other passengers
- Field Notes
- All taxes (including port taxes) & gratuities

Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

Accommodation

- 1 night at the Splendid Hotel & Spa, Nice or similar & 7 nights aboard the MV Belle des Océans

Culinary inclusions

- 8 breakfasts, 7 lunches & 8 dinners
- At hotel: water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner
- MV Belle des Océans: welcome cocktail and all onboard drinks*, served in the restaurant and in the bar to include tea, coffee, soft drinks, beers and a selection of wines, cocktails and long drinks

**Premium branded drinks at own cost*

Dates & prices per person

7th - 15th Sep	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
Horizon Deck 3	£4,995	£1,150
Horizon Deck 4	£5,395	£1,360
Horizon Deck 5	£5,595	£1,570
Panorama Suites	£6,195	£3,550

The deposit payable on this tour is £1,000pp

For full details of this tour visit

andantetravels.co.uk/aicc

Images top to bottom: Bonifacio town in Corsica island, France



Romans, Visigoths & Viziers

Pay a memorable visit to the legendary Alhambra Palace

8 DAYS

From £3,395pp

Departing October

Southern Spain, rich in precious metals, wine and olive oil, has attracted the attention of many would-be conquerors over the centuries. From North Africa came the Carthaginians, then came the Romans and then followed the Visigoths, who were vanquished by the Moors. From prehistory to the Renaissance, this tour progresses through the myriad ages of the region.

Tour Highlights

- Follow the scenic route of the Roman Via Augusta, an ancient road built to link Spain with Italy
- Tour the ruined Moorish palace of Medina Azahara, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Explore vibrant Seville, Moorish Córdoba and historic Granada – cities that offer unique insight into life in this Spanish region
- Indulge in the traditional flavours of the country at each stop and see how the cuisine changes as we travel around

Day One | London - Seville

Today we fly from London to Seville and transfer to our hotel on arrival.

Day Two | Seville

Our day begins at the **Palacio le Lebrija**, housing an Archaeological Museum famous for its Roman mosaics. Next, we visit the **Seville Archaeological Museum**, housing artefacts from the Neolithic period to the time of the Moors. After lunch, we explore the **Cathedral of St. Mary of the See** and the **Real Alcázar**.

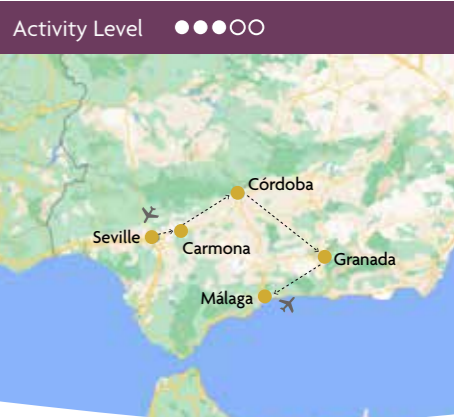
Day Three | Seville

Drive north to **Itálica**, the birthplace of Roman Emperors Trajan and Hadrian, and home to Roman remains, ancient cobbled streets and one of the largest amphitheatres in the Empire. On our return to Seville, we visit the **Metropol Parasol** and explore its remains.

Day Four | Seville - Córdoba

This morning we travel to **Carmona** to explore the ruins of the ancient city. The most important finds on display among the collections in the **Carmona Museum** are the Tartessian and Roman remains, which we also see. In the afternoon, we drive to

Images top to bottom: Alhambra Palace



Guided by Dr Doru Bogdan

A researcher and lecturer at the University of Alba Iulia in Romania, Doru is a specialist in Roman archaeology and has also supervised an array of fascinating excavations.

Price 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 Seville, Córdoba & Granada

Culinary inclusions

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

Please note, the order of visits may vary due to seasonal ferias and opening times.

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
2nd - 9th Oct	£3,395	£695

For full details of this tour visit

andantetravels.co.uk/avis



“A fascinating tour, very well-planned and extremely well-led by an expert archaeologist with a wide range of knowledge and a very outgoing style. The highlight for me was the 11th century frescoes at the delightful lake-side city of Ohrid.”

Guest, October 2022

Albania & Macedonia

The Via Egnatia

9 DAYS From £3,345pp Departing October

This is a journey through time and civilisations, across the landscapes of southeast Europe. Our tour takes in the treasures of Philip of Macedon, the late Imperial glories of Thessaloniki and even the beautiful medieval churches on the shores of Lake Ohrid. Divided by mountains, the Balkans are united by ancient roads – the greatest of these was the Via Egnatia.

- Tour Highlights**
- Explore the ruins of ancient Apollonia, one of the Via Egnatia’s starting points
 - View the waterfalls in Edessa and experience Albania’s capital, Tirana
 - Discover the historic palace complex of Galerius
 - Visit the UNESCO-listed site of Ohrid, the ‘City of Light’, on the shores of one of Europe’s oldest lakes

Day One | London - Tirana

We fly to Albania and transfer to our hotel.

Day Two | Durrës - Apollonia

We begin in **Durrës** and visit the amphitheatre, the late-antique city walls and the circular Forum of Anastasius. We continue south to **Apollonia**, a great Corinthian Greek colony, which facilitated the Roman conquest of the Balkans.

Day Three | Durrës - Tirana - Ohrid

A long drive today. First a visit to Tirana, capital of Albania. A visit to the **National Historical Museum** gives a particular view of Albanian history. We continue to **Elbasan**, ancient Scampis, the first major stopping point on the Via Egnatia heading east. We walk the line of the road through the castrum with its fine Roman and Ottoman walls and the first mosque marking the Ottoman conquest.

Day Four | Ohrid

All day in wonderful **Ohrid**, ancient Lychnidos – ‘the city of light’. We explore the churches of **Mary Peribleptos**, **St. Clement’s**, **St. Panteleimon** and **St. Sofia**, the great cathedral church. The 9th century fortress of Tsar Samuel dominates the hilltop. and stroll past St. Jovan Kaneo overlooking the lake.

Day Five | Ohrid - Bitola

A morning drive along the shore of **Lake Ohrid** to the ‘Bay of Bones’. We continue towards **Lake Prespa** and the monastery of **St. Naum**. He is a figure whose importance to European history cannot be overestimated.

Day Six | Bitola - Edessa

Our begin with a visit to the site of **Heraclea** where the theatre and the important early Christian cathedral and bishop’s palace can be seen. Next, we explore **Bitola**, home to a number of fine mosques.

Day Seven | Edessa - Verghina - Thessaloniki

This morning we visit the city of **Edessa**, including the last of its impressive waterfalls. Next its on to **Aigai** to visit the burial of Philip II, the father of Alexander the Great.

Day Eight | Thessaloniki

A full day in Thessaloniki, we visit the **Agora** and **Forum complex**, the ancient city’s centre, and the great late Roman church of **St. Demetrius**. We’ll explore explore the **Rotunda**, the extensive **Archaeological Museum** and **Byzantine Museum**.

Day Nine | Thessaloniki - London

We catch our flight back to London.

Looking for a longer break?

This tour can be booked back-to-back with the September departure of our Classical Sicily tour (p9). Save £150pp when booking both tours together.

Activity Level ●●●●○

Guided by Oliver Gilkes

One of Andante’s longest-standing guide lecturers, Oliver has worked as both a field and museum archaeologist.

Price 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 Durrës, Ohrid, Bitola, Edessa & Thessaloniki

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	SS
8th - 16th Oct	£3,345	£445

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/avie

Images top to bottom: Monastery of St. Naum



Cinque Terre & the Islands of Sicily & Malta

Cruising the length of the Italian coast

10 DAYS From £5,395pp Departing October

This new cruise provides an opportunity to visit some of the less accessible or lesser-visited sites in the French and Italian Riviera. We discover sites at the very heart of the Mediterranean and enjoy beautiful sea, volcano, and mountain scenery as we travel from the elegant city of Nice and sail the length of Italy, all the way to Malta. We will encounter Greek colonies and Roman settlements, Norman invaders, crusading Knights, and the famous Republican turned Emperor, Napoleon Bonaparte.

- Tour Highlights**
- Enjoy the glorious scenery of not one but two Mediterranean Rivas as we cruise along the length of Italy
 - Soak up the vista of the picturesque harbours, pastel-coloured houses and terraced vineyards of the Cinque Terre
 - Visit the wonderful Co-Cathedral of St. John in Valletta with its staggering Caravaggio masterpieces, The Beheading of St. John the Baptist and St. Jerome, painted while the tortured artist was in exile in Malta

Day One | London - Nice

We fly to Nice and time permitting, we’ll have an orientation walk.

Day Two | Nice – La Spezia

This morning we explore **Cimiez** and the **Archaeological Museum**. Later we drive to **Beaulieu-sur-Mer** to see the Greek Villa Kerylos. This evening we sail to La Spezia.

Day Three | La Spezia (The Cinque Terre)

A full day in the Cinque Terre. We’ll discover **Manarola**, **Monterosso** and **Vernazza**.

Day Four | Elba

Discover the Island of **Elba**. We begin at the historic centre of Portoferrario, visit the Palazzina dei Mulini and Porto Azzuro. Later, we sail towards Calabria.

Day Five | Day at Sea

A full day cruising the Mediterranean Sea

Day Six | Vibo Marina

We arrive into Vibo Marina this morning and then its on to Sicily this evening. **Exclusive Andante**

Excursion: We drive to **Vibo Valentina** to visit the castle and the archaeological museum inside.

Day Seven | Syracuse

Early this morning we arrive in Syracuse. We sail to the Aeolian Islands this evening. **Exclusive Andante Excursion:** Explore the **Temple of Apollo**, **Temple of Athena**, **Basilicata of St. Lucy**, **Fountain of Arethusa** and **Neapolis Archaeological Park**.

Day Eight | Valletta

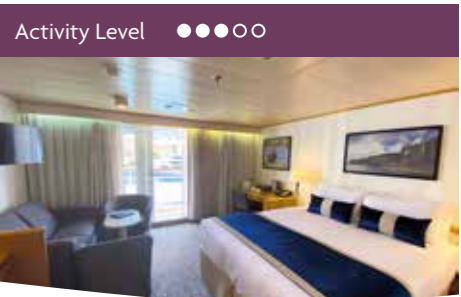
This morning we disembark from our ship and explore **Valletta**. Visits include, the **Co-Cathedral of St. John**, the **Catacombs of St. Paul** and the **Catacombs of St. Agatha**.

Day Nine | Valletta

Today we explore the exceptional **National Archaeological Museum** housed in the 16th century Auberge de Provence. Later, we drive to Rabat and examine the **Domus Romana**.

Day Ten | Valletta – London

We catch our return flight to London.



Guided by Dr Doru Bogdan

Doru is a researcher and lecturer at the University of Alba Iulia in Romania, and has supervised an array of excavations.

- Price includes**
- Expert Guide Lecturer
 - Exclusive Andante Excursions with entry to all sites as stated in the itinerary
 - The Cinque Terre by train and the Island of Elba excursions with Croisi Europe, shared with other passengers
 - Field Notes
 - All taxes (including port taxes) & gratuities
- Included travel**
- Return flights from London & all local transport

Accommodation

- 1 night at a hotel in Nice, 7 nights aboard the MV Belle des Océans and 1 night at a hotel in Valletta

Culinary inclusions

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
 - At hotels: water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner
 - MV Belle des Océans: welcome cocktail and all on board drinks*, served in the restaurant and in the bar to include tea, coffee, soft drinks, beers and a selected of wines, cocktails and long drinks
- *Premium branded drinks at own cost*

Dates & prices per person		
12th - 21st Oct	Twin/DbI Share	SS
Horizon Deck 3	£5,395	£1,690
Horizon Deck 4	£5,695	£1,780
Horizon Deck 5	£5,895	£1,970
Panorama Suites	Prices on request	

The deposit payable on this tour is £1,000pp

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/asmc



Morocco & Andalucia

Where Africa and Europe meet

18 DAYS From £5,995pp Departing October

Separated by only a narrow body of water, Morocco and Andalucía have exchanged peoples and cultural ideas for millennia. On this tour of a lifetime, you will explore the nexus between Africa and Europe, starting in the Roman period and continuing to the expulsion of Muslims and Jews in the reign of Ferdinand and Isabella.

- Tour Highlights**
- Explore the extensive ruins of Volubilis, one of the most important archaeological sites in North Africa
 - Visit Fez with its UNESCO-listed Medina, its historic buildings and its fine medieval museum
 - Examine the site of Gadir, which includes remains from both the Phoenician and Roman periods
 - View the extraordinary sites of Granada, the last bastion of Muslim culture in Andalucía

Day One | London - Marrakech

Today we fly to vibrant Marrakech, settle into our hotel, and time permitting have a brief walk around the **Kutubiyya Minaret** and **Jeema el fna Square**.

Day Two | Marrakech

We start our exploration of Marrakech with the 16th century **Saadian Tombs** and **Baddi Palace**. Later on we visit the **Bahia Palace**, an elaborately decorated 19th Century palace which was amongst the first to use stained glass decoratively.

Day Three | Marrakech - Rabat

This morning we visit the **Mayorelle Garden** and the **Museum of Berber Art**. Later on we travel to Rabat and on arrival visit the **Hassan Tower**.

Day Four | Rabat - Meknes

Founded by the Almohad dynasty in the 12th century, our exploration of Rabat this morning includes the **Museum of History and Civilisation** and the UNESCO listed Kasbah of Rabat. On arrival in **Meknes** we will visit the **Moulay Ismail Mausoleum** and see the **Bab el Mansour**.

Day Five | Volubilis

We spend most of the day in the most famous archaeological site in Morocco, **Volubilis**. The ancient city developed from the 3rd century BC, but

really came to its own in the 1st century AD when it became capital of the kingdom of Mauretania.

Day Six | Fez

In Fez we start at the UNESCO listed **Medina**, whose twisting streets are dotted with historic monuments and mosques. These include the **Bou Inania Madrasa**, the Andalusian Mosque and the **Qarawiyyin University**. We will also visit the 12th century **tannery** which is still in use.

Day Seven | Meknes - Tangiers

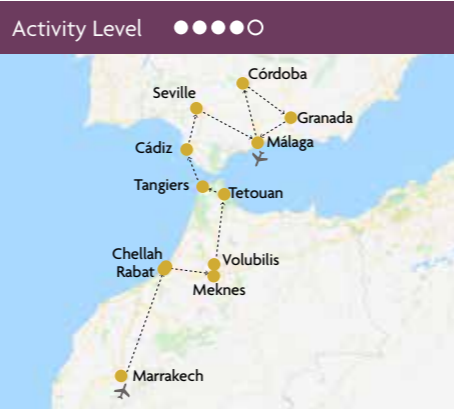
Today we visit the little visited archaeological site of **Banasa**, known in antiquity as Colonia Iulia Valentia. Leaving behind the city, this is a very quiet site. We then move north towards Tangiers.

Day Eight | Lixus

We venture to the scenic town of **Lixus** whose material remains suggest it may have originally been a Carthaginian site. Afterwards we transfer to Tangiers and visit the Kasbah Museum.

Day Nine | Tetouan

The tour has reached the northern tip of Morocco where Spanish influence is most felt. We start the day at **Tetouan** where we will admire the Andalusian flavour of this city in the UNESCO listed **Medina**.



Day Ten | Tangiers - Cadiz

This morning we cross the straits of Gibraltar on a ferry and make our way to Cadiz. We spend the afternoon at the archaeological site of **Baelo Claudia, Bolonia**.

Day Eleven | Cadiz - Seville

Cadiz has been settled since at least the 2nd millennium, and we are going to explore the panoply of this city's history. We begin with the **Cadiz Museum** and continue to the archaeological site of **Gadir**. After lunch, we explore the **Roman Theatre**, and **Cathedral** then travel on to Seville.

Day Twelve | Seville

This morning we explore the city's famously rich history. We start with the **Metropole Parasol and its Antiquarium** then proceed to the **Palacio de Lebrija**, which contains an important collection of Roman mosaics. After lunch we visit the wonderful **Seville Cathedral** then end the day at the **Real Alcazar**.

Day Thirteen | Seville - Ronda

Today we explore the most important and impressive archaeological site in Spain, **Italica**, the birthplace of Trajan, Hadrian and Theodosius. After lunch, we continue to Ronda where we explore the



city's melange of architecture, including the **Puerta de Almocabar** the **Iglesia del Espiritu Santo** and the **Iglesia de Santa Maria la Mayor**.

Day Fourteen | Ronda - Malaga

We spend the morning in Ronda first at the **Mondragon Palace Museum**, then continue to **La Casa del Rey Moro**, a 14th century residence, and to the **Arabic Baths**. After lunch we travel to Antequera, and visit the **City Museum**.

Day Fifteen | Malaga

We explore Malaga, first founded by Phoenicians and described by Ibn Battuta as one of the most beautiful cities in Al-Andalus. Our visits include the **Malaga Museum**, the **Roman Theatre**, the **Church of Santiago Apostol**, and the famous **Alcazaba**.



Day Sixteen | Malaga - Granada

We spend the entire day in the extraordinary city of Cordoba, which exemplifies perhaps more than any other city the blend of cultures found in Andalucía. We start with the **Medina Azahara** then continue to the **Alcázar de los Reyes Cristianos**, ending our exploration with the stunning **Cordoba Mosque-Cathedral**.

Day Seventeen | Granada

Granada, Muslim until its defeat in 1485, was the last bastion of Moorish history and culture in Andalucía. Our visits here include the **Cathedral** built in the century of the old Muslim Medina and **El Banuelo**, the site of Arabic baths dating from the 11th century. A visit to the extraordinary **Alhambra** is a fitting end to this day.

Day Eighteen | Granada - Malaga - London

After the tour of a lifetime exploring the wonders of Morocco and Spain, we make our way to Malaga airport for our return flight back to London.

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

Guided by Dr Doru Bogdan in Andalusia
A specialist in Roman archaeology, Doru has supervised an array of fascinating excavations.

- Price 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 Marrakech, Rabat, Meknes, Tangiers, Cadiz, Seville, Ronda, Malaga & Granada
- Culinary inclusions**
- 17 breakfasts, 16 lunch & 15 dinners
 - Water with all meals, tea or coffee with dinner

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
31st Oct - 17th Nov	£5,995	£995

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/amas

Further Afield

The sites in North Africa are vital for shedding light on other ancient peoples, notably the Phoenicians/Carthaginians, as well as the Numidians and Romans. Visiting Punic sites in Africa not only sheds light on the complexity of Carthaginian urban infrastructures but poses questions about the city's enmity with Rome and what would have happened had the Punic wars not be won by Rome. The wonder of North African archaeological sites is their fabulous state of preservation; cities such as Timgad, Dougga and Volubilis can scarce be found in Europe, whose sites have been encroached upon over succeeding millennia. At the same time, North African sites - abounding with olive oil presses, magnificent mosaics, temples and baths - pay homage to the region's prosperity in the Roman period, when it was the bread basket of the empire.

Destinations in the eastern Mediterranean and the Middle East can be truly astounding places to explore from an archaeological perspective. What is, perhaps, not emphasised enough is how multicultural this part of the world is, as is particularly evident with the Nabateans who produced the stunning rock cut buildings, such as the Monastery and Treasury in Petra. The Levant also houses a number of impressive castles, notably Kerak, erected in the medieval period and instrumental in understanding the crusades and concomitant Christian attempts to regain the Holy Land.

The range of archaeological heritage across Asia is as vast as the continent itself, from megacities to nomadic camps, from mountain forts to complex monasteries, from tombs and tells, to complex mausoleums and highly decorated madrasas. Exploring these sites brings an element of discovery and adventure, travelling to places far off the beaten track – indeed in some cases where there is no track at all! The Silk route, which has fascinated travellers for centuries, facilitated the passage not only of trade but of cultural exchange over vast distances.

The two continents that make up the Americas are well worth a visit for any archaeological enthusiast. Here we find incredible sites nestled among truly awe-inspiring and often otherworldly landscapes.



Classical Turkey: Aegean Coast

Powerful city states of ancient history

11 DAYS

From £3,785pp

Departing October

Tour Highlights

- Gaze upon the mighty walls of Troy as everyone from Achilles to Alexander the Great has desired to do
- Enjoy access to the Roman era houses of Ephesus, a corner of the site seldom visited
- Explore remarkably well-preserved classical cities such as Pergamon, Miletus and Aphrodisias, and discover a range of evocative lesser-known ruins

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.

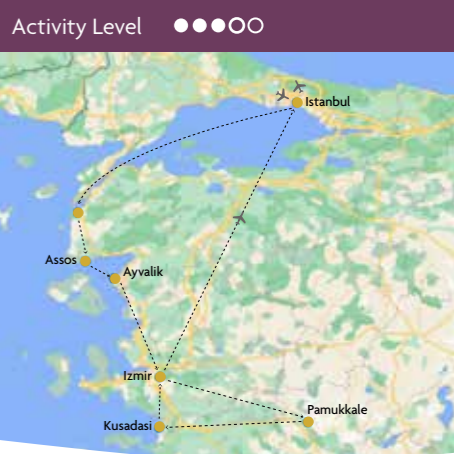
Our journey starts with an overnight stay in Istanbul before taking a ferry to Çanakkale to visit the ancient site of Troy. Imagine the Greek army approaching across the plain, while Paris watches in trepidation from the walls of the city and Hector duels with Achilles.

We take a drive to the site of Assos, perched on a prominent hilltop overlooking the Aegean and Sappho's island of Lesbos. We explore the Doric Temple of Athena and the ruins of Alexandria Troas. The site is little-known today, but was visited twice by St. Paul in the first century. Surviving features include the agora temple with its columns and reliefs, a partly excavated odeon and superb section of Roman streets. We also explore Ayvalik and the Hellenistic city of Pergamon, including Pergamon Museum and Aesclepium, an ancient medical centre.

Enjoy a brief brush with the Hittites – an ancient Bronze Age Turkish civilisation - at the Karabel rock relief, then drive inland to Sardis, with its massive gymnasium and bath-house, and the finely preserved Temple of Artemis. We continue to Pamukkale, the limestone 'cotton castle', the ancient Hierapolis, and the oracular Temple of Apollo.

We travel east up the valley of the Menderes River, through magnificent scenery to the site of Aphrodisias. The mountains surrounding this idyllic site produce very fine white marble and the city became famous for its sculptors. We'll also spend a morning in Priene, follow in the footsteps of the Greeks to Didyma and end the day at Miletus, home of philosophers and scientists.

Our tour culminates at the UNESCO World Heritage site of Ephesus, one of western Turkey's highlights. Here we have special access to the Roman era terraced houses. With their painted walls and mosaics beautifully restored it is a corner of the site seldom visited by the mainstream tourist.



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

Price 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 Divan Corlu Hotel, Assos Kervansary Hotel, Bacacan Hotel, Giritligli Hotel, Doga Thermal Hotel & Charisma Hotel or similar

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person		
Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
3rd - 13th Oct	£3,785	£650

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/aaeg



Algeria

Roman Mauretania

10 DAYS From £4,530pp Departing October

Algeria is still one of the least-visited countries in the world, but access to its ruinous Classical cities is now easier than it has been for some years. The sites are a palimpsest of Numidian, Roman and Byzantine remains, and include probably the best-preserved colonia anywhere in the Empire – Timgad.

- Tour Highlights**
- Wander the perfectly preserved streets at the UNESCO-listed sites of Roman Djémila and Timgad
 - In Sétif, gaze upon one of the most exquisite mosaics in all the Roman world – the fantastic ‘Triumph of Dionysus’
 - Explore the Roman ‘City of Bridges’ – Constantine – and visit the evocative ruins of Hippo Regius



Day One | London - Algiers

We fly from London to Algiers and transfer to our hotel stopping en route to admire the **Makam Echahid**, one of the most striking landmarks in the city and memorial to those who lost their lives during Algeria’s hard-won war for independence. After lunch we will explore the **Kasbah**, built on the ruins of old Icosium, a Phoenician commercial outpost later overtaken by the Romans. Little remains of its ancient past but having survived bombardment and civil war, the Casbah of Algiers remains the largest old walled city or ‘citadel’ in North Africa and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Day Two | Cherchell & Tipasa

We spend the whole of today along Mediterranean west of Algiers. Driving west we reach **Cherchell**, Phoenician Iol and Roman Caesarea, which was once the capital of the Numidian client King Juba II and his wife Cleopatra Selene, daughter of Mark Anthony and Cleopatra. Our afternoon is spent at the Roman city of **Tipasa**, a UNESCO World Heritage Site overlooking the sea, with impressive remains both of the high Roman Empire, and of the early Christian period. We also stop at the huge cylindrical tomb, variously called the ‘Royal Mausoleum of Mauretania’ or the ‘Tomb of the Christian Woman’.



Day Three | Algiers - Annaba

This morning we have time to visit the **Bardo Museum**, housed in a neo-Moorish Villa and the **Museum of Antiquities and Islamic Arts**, before transferring to the airport for our flight to Annaba. We arrive in Annaba in time for a late lunch and an afternoon visit to **Hippo Regius**. The great North African churchman later known as St. Augustine ended his days here in AD430, and we visit the remains of this once splendid city a mile to the south of modern Annaba. It was once a port, situated on an inlet which has since silted over, leaving the ruins isolated and complete, and now dominated by the basilica of St Augustine which was built on a nearby hill during the 19th century. We visit the basilica as well as the site.

Day Four | Annaba - Constantine

We depart early this morning to visit the theatre and museum at **Guelma**. The Numidian Jugurtha won an important battle against the Romans here. We continue south to **Khemissa**, this relatively little-known or visited site was certainly a significant Numidian settlement from at least the second century AD. This huge ancient city is set in glorious surroundings, and among the ruins we find an old forum built on an artificial terrace on the north slope of the hill with shops and adjoining temples,



as well as a Basilica dating probably to the second century AD. We then head west to Constantine, making one final stop to see the tomb of **Massinissa** and the site at **El Khroub**.

Day Five | Constantine & Tiddis

Our morning is spent at the beautifully situated ruined city of **Tiddis**, an authentic Berber site modified by Roman civilization. The site has been occupied a least since the Neolithic period and several circular ‘bazina’ burial monuments from the pre-Roman Numidian period are visible at the site. We return to **Constantine** for lunch and later explore this extraordinary city, dramatically situated on a plateau by a deep ravine. Here we’ll see its museum, kasbah, suspension bridge and the **Palace of Ahmed Bey**, one of the finest Ottoman-era buildings in the country.

Day Six | Constantine - Setif

We journey west to the site of **Djémila** situated on a narrow triangular plateau, 900m above sea level and described as ‘one of the most perfect expressions of the meeting of Roman power and African beauty’. The town here is thought to have been founded by either Emperor Nerva or Trajan between AD 96 – 117 initially as a military garrison. Despite the challenging topography of the undulating landscape, its builders tried to conform, largely unsuccessfully, to Roman grid planning standards. It is partly owing to the consequent interesting layout and linear urban expansion and its good state of preservation that the site was granted UNESCO World Heritage status in 1982. In the afternoon we drive to Setif and end the day at the **Setif Archaeological Museum**, home to some unusual artefacts, but also some exceptional Roman mosaics including the ‘Triumph of Dionysus’.

Day Seven | Setif - Batna/Timgad

An early start this morning as we make the long journey south to **Timgad**, the Roman city founded in AD 100 by Emperor Trajan, principally as a colony for veterans of the Legio III Augusta. This huge site was declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1982 and is famed for its formal orthogonal grid layout of the original town plan, measuring some 355m on each side, and for the good preservation of some

of its monuments. Still visible is a rare example of a Roman Library and no less than eight bath complexes scatter the site.

Day Eight | Batna - Biskra

Continuing south, our first stop today is at **Lambaesis**. This was the main military base of the Third Legion Augusta. The Legion may have numbered up to 25,000 men, recruited initially from Gaul, but later also from other Roman provinces and North Africa. The site is now rather forlorn, but parts of it, such as the amphitheatre and the four-sided arch in the military camp, are still quite substantial and worthy of some exploration. From here we drive through the spectacular scenery of the Aurès Mountains to the **Biskra** province which lies on the northern edge of the Sahara. We will stop on the way in the area of the gorges of Tighanimine and the breathtaking canyon of Rhouffi and we will visit the **Balconies of Ghoufi** where the cliffs cascade in naturally formed balconies and were used centuries ago to carve out cave dwellings from the sandstone.

Day Nine | Biskra - Algiers

We enjoy a relaxing morning visiting the Oasis of **Biskra** and the Palmerie at Tolga. For centuries, inhabitants of the Ziban mountain range have carefully planted and pollinated their precious date palms here – the local adage being ‘give to the date palm and she will return the favour’. There are more than 100 cultivars of dates produced from four million trees in Biskra, ensuring agriculture remains the lifeblood of the region’s economy. After lunch at the Palmerie, we transfer to Biskra airport for our flight to Algiers, arriving in time for dinner.

Day Ten | Algiers - London

We transfer to Algiers airport for our return flight to London.

Please note that due to the unpredictable nature of local arrangements, some elements of our itinerary may be subject to change. In these circumstances, we will ensure that the integrity of our archaeological programme is not compromised but a certain degree of flexibility is required when travelling in this challenging but stunningly beautiful country.



Guided by Tony O'Connor

A specialist in the Roman Empire, Tony has excavated widely across Britain, Europe and North Africa.

Price 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 Lamarz Arts Hotel, Sheraton Annaba Hotel, Protea Hotel by Marriott Constantine, Novotel Setif, Hotel Messouadi - Batna, Hotel Nail Zakaria - Biskra or similar

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
29th Oct - 7th Nov	£4,530	£695

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/aalg



ZERO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
PLACES AVAILABLE

"I thoroughly enjoyed the tour. Both the tour manager and the Guide Lecturer were very good. Our local guide was also lovely!"
Guest, September 2022

Uzbekistan

Visit the UNESCO-listed sites of Bukhara and Samarkand

15 DAYS	From £5,345pp	Departing September
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Follow in the footsteps of history as we explore the sites and cities of the Silk Road, which once ran from China to Europe, with Uzbekistan right as its heart. The steppes, deserts, mountains and blue-tiled cities all tell stories of trade and conquest, and this is a journey across the country that traces the paths of those who've passed by for thousands of years.

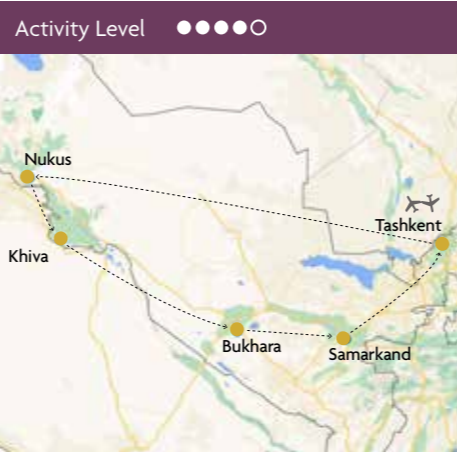
- Tour Highlights**
- Visit the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Khiva, Bukhara, Samarkand and Shakhrisyabz
 - Get a taste of the avant-garde at the renowned Savitsky Art Museum, home to the world's second-largest collection of Russian art pieces
 - Travel to the ancient trade routes, where caravans of silk, spice and textiles once crossed the landscape
 - Enter the magnificent Bibi-Khanym Mosque and admire the many ornate palaces in the mesmerising Silk Road city of Khiva



Days One & Two | London - Tashkent
We take an overnight flight to Tashkent and travel to our hotel, with some free time to rest before lunch. In the afternoon, we visit the **State Museum of History of Uzbekistan**. Highlights here include the remains of a prehistoric man dating from 1.5 million years BC as well as significant statues and reliefs from the country's Buddhist period. This evening, we enjoy a group dinner together.

Day Three | Tashkent
We spend the day in **Tashkent** and enjoy a walking tour of the **Old Town**, exploring ancient mausoleums and beautiful mosques, including **Tillya Sheikh**. We will also take in remnants of the city's Soviet past.

Day Four | Tashkent - Nukus
Fly to **Nukus**, located in the Karakalpakstan Republic. Upon arrival, we head to **Gyaur Kala**, the "Fortress of Infidels", a settlement established at the time of the First Persian Empire. After lunch, we continue to the medieval city of **Mizdakh**, site of Uzbekistan's oldest necropolis, first founded some 2,000 years ago. Still a place of pilgrimage and mysticism, the legends surrounding this settlement include that of the "World Clock", a building that is



said to shed just one brick a year. According to legend, when the last brick falls, the end of the world begins.

Day Five | Nukus - Khiva
Our day starts at the world-renowned **Savitsky Art Museum**, which hosts the world's second-largest collection of Russian avant-garde art that hangs alongside that of Socialist Realism. There are also archaeological and ethnographic objects on display. Next we travel south along the Amu River to the remote ruined tepe of **Chilpik Dakhma**, a Zoroastrian "Tower of Silence" used in funerary "sky burial" rituals until the Arab invasion of the 7th century AD. Our final destination for the day is **Khiva**, an important Silk Road city famous for its role as a slave trading post.

Day Six | Khiva
We begin with an excursion to the mighty fortresses of **Ayaz Kala**. Dramatically situated on a hilltop overlooking the Kyzylkum Desert, and erected to protect local inhabitants against nomadic attacks, these ancient strongholds were largely destroyed at the time of the Arab invasions. We continue to the abandoned city of **Toprak Kala**, a complex built by the slave-owning Khorezm, with



an extended line of crumbling walls that is visible for miles around. Built in the 3rd century AD, its remains include the residences of Khorezm governors, workshops which formerly manufactured bows, and a palace with three imposing towers.

Day Seven | Khiva
Today we step into a world of "Arabian Nights", spending a whole day exploring **Khiva** on foot to enjoy its narrow alleys, graceful minarets and thriving markets. Although it was virtually destroyed by Genghis Khan, much of what was subsequently rebuilt is impressive. The first of Uzbekistan's sites to achieve World Heritage status, the city still boasts its original defensive walls and gates, as well as a wealth of ornate mosques and mausoleums.

Day Eight | Khiva - Bukhara
We take a long drive through the **Karakum Desert**, with a brief stop en route at the widest expanse of the **Amu Darya** (River Oxus) to see how its waters have been diverted by the Soviets, causing the Aral Sea to dramatically recede. We arrive at **Bukhara** mid-afternoon, allowing time to visit the beautifully located **Samani and Chashma Ayub mausoleums**, and the **Bolo Khauz Mosque**.

Day Nine | Bukhara
Wander brilliant **Bukhara**, long a great oasis of Central Asia. Formerly part of the Persian Empire,



the city was seized by the Samanids in AD 903 and went on to become a significant centre for intellectualism in the Islamic world. As part of our tour, we visit the **Po-i-Kalyan** religious complex, an impressive collection of sacred buildings, so transcendent that not even Ghengis Khan could not bring himself to destroy it. Tonight we enjoy a **traditional folk show** before having dinner.

Day Ten | Bukhara
We visit the site of one of Bukhara's predecessors today — the ruined city of **Poykent**. After a picnic lunch at the **Poykent Museum**, we return to Bukhara to visit the **Mausoleum of Ismail Samani**, a fine example of Samanid architecture, and the **Bolo Haus Mosque**, as well as other places of interest.

Day Eleven | Bukhara - Samarkand
Today we follow the Silk Road route to **Samarkand**, on a drive east across the scenic plains of central Uzbekistan. En route, we stop at Rabat-i Malik, an 11th century caravanserai with a Persian façade matching those found on palace walls at Persepolis.

Day Twelve | Samarkand
After breakfast, we head out for a day of discoveries in Samarkand. Highlights include the **Ulugh Beg Observatory**, the necropolis at **Shah i Zinda**, Uzbekistan's oldest archaeological site at **Afrasiyab**, and finally the renowned **Registan Square**.

Day Thirteen | Samarkand
Switching to smaller vehicles, we travel to the turquoise-domed city of **Shakhrisyabz**, ancient birthplace of Amir Temur (Tamerlane). Here, we find the remains of the 14th century **Ak-Saray Palace** and the **Dorus Saodat**, an outstanding example of Khwarezmian architecture.

Day Fourteen | Samarkand - Tashkent
Our last full day begins in central Samarkand, visiting the restored **Gur-i-Amir Mausoleum** complex where Tamerlane was buried. We then visit the **Bibi-Khanym Mosque**, with its magnificent columns, portals and minarets. After lunch, we return to Tashkent by high-speed train.

Day Fifteen | Tashkent - London
Our tour ends in Tashkent and we catch our return flight back to London.

Guided by Francois Desset
A French archaeologist specialising in Near Eastern archaeology, Francois obtained his PhD from the Sorbonne. He currently works at Tehran University.

Price 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 Tashkent, Khiva, Bukhara & Samarkand

Culinary inclusions

- 13 breakfasts, 13 lunch & 13 dinners
- Water with all meals, wine & tea or coffee with dinner

Dates & prices per person		
Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
15th - 29th Sep	£5,345	£0

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/auzb



Jordan - Petra & the Desert Fortresses

Spend two days in the evocative rock-cut city of Petra

10 DAYS	From £4,295pp	Departing October
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Nothing can prepare you for Petra – the scale, the colours and the grandeur. Lively, cosmopolitan and rich, with goods from every corner of the world, ancient Petra was an extraordinary city. Its streets were swathed in a fusion of Nabataean and Classical architecture — elaborate tombs, colonnaded streets and temples carved into the rose-red rock.

Tour Highlights

- Admire the almost lunar-like desert scenery of Wadi Rum
- Discover the mighty crusader castle at Kerak, built in the 12th century
- Visit Jerash, the best preserved (and Jordan's largest) Roman town in the east, a site that is home to the Oval Plaza and the Corinthian columns of the Temple of Artemis

Day One | London - Amman

We fly to Amman from London and travel to our hotel. Tonight, we have dinner together as a group for the first time.

Day Two | Wadi Seer - Dead Sea - Amman

After a leisurely start, we head to the valley of Wadi Seer. Here we find the remains of **Qasr-al-Abd**, a well-preserved Hasmonean and rare Hellenistic period Palace. Hyrcanus of Jerusalem built the palace around 200 BC as part of a much larger estate, that is now covered by the village of Iraq al-Emir. We then spend time both at and in the **Dead Sea**. The lowest place on earth is also the deepest hyper-saline lake in the world, over nine times saltier than the ocean. This salinity has created a harsh environment so it is unsuitable for any plants of wildlife, hence its name. It is however, a unique experience to be able to 'float' on the Dead Sea, so we make the most of this opportunity. After our time here, we return to Amman.

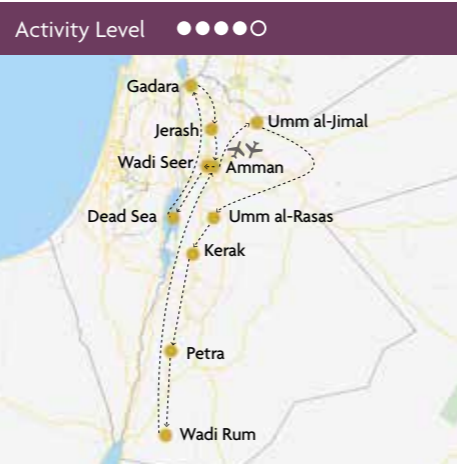
Day Three | Gadara - Jerash

We explore two Roman Decapolis cities today as our adventure continues. We start off at the ancient city of **Gadara** (known today as Umm Qais), which offers views over the Golan Heights and Sea of Galilee. After lunch we continue to **Jerash**

(ancient Gerasa) for the afternoon, which is set in the pine valleys of the biblical land of Gilead, and is one of the best-preserved Roman cities in the east. The architecture is particularly fine, and includes the impressive 2nd century **Hadrian's Arch**, the Corinthian columns of the **Temple of Artemis** and the Oval Plaza - framed by a magnificent colonnade - a unique feature of the Forum.

Day Four | Amman

The morning is spent in Jordan's modern capital Amman. Here we visit the **Archaeological Museum** and the citadel. The museum is home to artefacts from archaeological sites from across the country, including the Dead Sea bronze scroll written in Aramaic characters. The citadel is one of the oldest continuously inhabited places in the world, and we visit the ruins of the **Roman Temple of Hercules** and the **palace of the Omayyad Caliphs**. Before lunch we visit the **Memorial Church at Mount Nebo**. In the afternoon, we make a short drive to the early Byzantine **Church of St. George in Madaba**, where we view the amazing 6th century mosaic map of the Holy Land depicting biblical sites of the Middle East from Egypt to Palestine. Afterwards, we spend a little time in the **Madaba Archaeological Park** before heading back to our hotel.



Day Five | Umm al-Jimal

Today we head into the eastern desert to explore the dramatic basalt city at **Umm al-Jimal**, even the doors are made of huge black slabs and some of them still operate! After lunch we travel on to the desert castles, **Qasr Azraq**, **Amra** and **al-Kharanah**, with far-reaching views over the surrounding landscape. Jordan's desert castles were so called due to their imposing stature, but they served mainly as agriculture and trade centres, and caravan stations.

Day Six | Umm al-Rasas - Kerak

We visit the church and spectacular mosaics at **Umm al-Rasas**. A Roman and Byzantine site, the mosaics of the churches have fine depictions of the principal cities of the region. Before lunch, we have a stop at a viewpoint at Wadi Mujib. On next to the mighty crusader castle of Kerak, one of the largest in the Levantine region. Overlooking the Dead Sea, it was built in 1132 as the first line of defence for the Crusader kingdom of Jerusalem. Its position gave control of important trade routes between Damascus, Egypt and Mecca, and of the region's Bedouin herders.



Days Seven & Eight | Petra

Today is the first of two full days in **Petra**, and with the archaeological park spread across 200 square kilometres, we will easily fill our time spent here as there is much to explore. Located among mountains and rugged desert canyons, this ancient capital of the Nabataean Arabs is carved directly into a mixture of sandstone cliff face, its colours a mixture of red, white and pink hence it is also known as the "Rose City". We walk into the site each day, both for the sense of discovery, and to experience the famous entrance to the ravine site, the Siq. As we wander along the colonnaded streets, we take in some of the ancient city's most significant structures, such as the world-renowned "**Treasury**" (Al-Khazneh), a temple over 40 metres in height with a truly impressive ornate façade. The Nabateans, though essential nomadic, developed a sophisticated water technology, the remains of which we will also see here during our extensive visit. Led by our expert guide, there are optional



climbs on both days to Nabataean '**Monastery**' and the '**High Place**'.

Day Nine | Little Petra - Wadi Rum

This morning we will visit the Neolithic site of **Beidha**, where 8th millennium BC houses can still be seen, and the painted tomb at "Little Petra" (Siq al-Bahrid). Thought to have been an important suburb of Petra, the site includes temples, tombs, water channels and cisterns carved out of rock. We drive to **Wadi Rum**, home of the largest Roman copper mine in the empire. Here we take 4x4s through spectacular scenery, made famous by the filming of "Lawrence of Arabia". There are also several rock art sites to be explored here. Afterwards, we head back to Amman for a farewell group dinner.

Day Ten | Amman - London

Our tour ends in Amman and we catch our included return flights back to London.



Guided by Nick Jackson

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

Price 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 Amman, Petra & the Dead Sea

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
3rd - 12th Oct	£4,295	£785

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/ajor



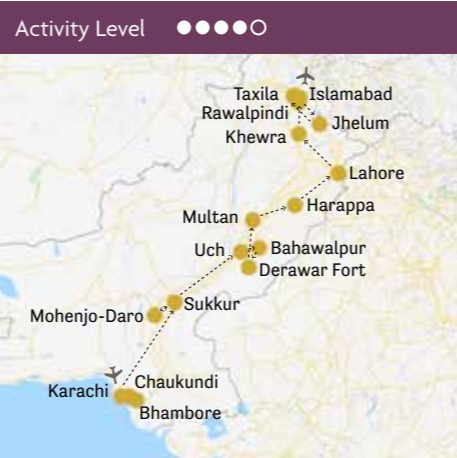
Ancient Wonders of Pakistan

At the edge of Alexander's empire

12 DAYS	From £6,200pp	Departing October
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Sublime, little-visited Pakistan boasts myriad sites that reveal its rich ancient history in spectacular style. The Indus Valley civilisation comes to life in the stones of Mohenjo-Daro, Harappa and Taxila, and Andante guests will walk in the footsteps of Alexander the Great with elegant mosques, serene tombs and bustling bazaars to delight the eye.

- Tour Highlights
- Discover enthralling Indus Valley archaeology at Mohenjo-Doro, Harappa and Taxila
 - Visit the world's largest necropolis, Makli, home to one million ornate Islamic tombs
 - Stand at the site of the Battle of the Hydaspes, where Alexander the Great faced an army of war elephants
 - Explore the mosques and mausolea of Uch, shimmering with blue tiles



Day One | London - Karachi

We fly overnight to Pakistan's largest city, Karachi.

Day Two | Karachi

Upon arrival in Karachi, we enjoy an overview of the country's ancient history at the **National Museum of Pakistan**, housing rare manuscripts of the Qu'ran, beautiful Islamic miniatures, 4,000-year-old Gandhara statues and Indus Valley seals. More modern Pakistani history is represented at the serene Raj-era **Mohatta Palace**, the **Quaid e Azam Mausoleum**, resting place of the founder of Pakistan, and a bustling local bazaar, heady with exotic scents and sounds.

Day Three | Chaukundi & Bhambore

A full-day excursion takes us to **Chaukundi**, a vast 15th century burial ground of ornate pillared tombs, and **Bhambore**, an ancient city of Sindh. In the afternoon, we visit the world's largest necropolis, UNESCO-listed **Makli**. This gigantic graveyard served the nearby city of Thatta, once a great centre of Islamic culture. Here are gathered as many as one million tombs, dating back as far as the 14th century. We view some of the most breathtaking and lavishly decorated.



Day Four | Karachi - Sukkur - Mohenjo-Daro

A short flight takes us to Sukkur, our base for visiting **Mohenjo-Daro**. This fascinating UNESCO-listed archaeological site reveals the majesty of one of the great cities of the Indus Valley civilisation, which reached the height of its influence around 2,000 BCE. Admire the sophistication of the city as you explore its gridded streets, multi-room houses with heated bathing, its pillared halls and fortifications. In the afternoon, we visit the **Bhutto family mausoleum**, where Benazir Bhutto and family are laid to rest.

Day Five | Sukkur - Uch - Bahawalpur

En route to Bahawalpur we visit the historic city of **Uch**, reputedly founded by Alexander the Great during his conquest of the Indus Valley in 325 BCE and settled by Thracians. Uch is most celebrated for its grand medieval mosques and mausolea, shimmering with the blue tiles typical of the region. We visit the confluence of the five rivers of the Punjab, the early-17th century **Minaret of Masoom Shah** and the partially ruined 15th century **Tomb of Bibi Jawindi**, which still dazzles with its blue and white façade.

Day Six | Bahawalpur - Derawar Fort - Multan

The mighty bastions of **Derawar Fort** rise sheer from the parched ground of the Cholistan Desert. A fortress has occupied this site for at least 1,100 years, and the present walls, 30m high and 1,500m in perimeter, date to the 1730s. In the afternoon we tour Multan, one of the oldest cities of the sub-continent, where Sufi shrines, Muslim mausolea and the **Hussain Agahi bazaar** all reward exploration.

Day Seven | Multan - Harappa - Lahore

The archaeological site of **Harappa** comprises the ruins of a Bronze Age fortified city, home to an estimated 23,500 inhabitants. As per archaeological convention, the Indus Valley civilisation is also known as the Harappan civilisation, because this was the earliest of its site to be discovered and excavated. Second only to Mohenjo-Daro in size, it merits renown, with evidence of a raised citadel and sophisticated houses and public buildings. We continue to Lahore this afternoon.

Day Eight | Lahore

In the Punjabi capital we take in the outstanding **Lahore Museum**, home to the Zamzama Gun, made famous in Kipling's Kim, and extraordinary collections of Gandhara sculpture, (such as the Fasting Buddha) and Islamic miniatures, as well as the 19th century **Tollinton Market** and the iconic **Mughal-era Badshahi Mosque**. We also view the ceremonial flag-lowering ceremony at the Pakistan-India border.

Day Nine | Lahore - Khewra - Rawalpindi

A couple of interesting stops on our way to Rawalpindi - at the colossal **Khewra Salt Mine**, now the second-largest in the world, where salt has been mined and traded for thousands of years, and on the banks of the Jhelum River - the site of the **Battle of the Hydaspes Khewra Salt Mine** between Alexander the Great and King Porus in 326 BCE, involving infantry, cavalry, six-man chariots and an army of war elephants.

Day Ten | Jhelum

Near the city of Jhelum is the remarkably well-preserved 16th century **Rohtas Fort**, another of Pakistan's UNESCO World Heritage Sites. We return to Islamabad by way of the Grand Trunk Road, and the overgrown 2nd century **Mankiala Stupa**, marking the spot where, according to Buddhist scripture, an incarnation of the Buddha sacrificed himself to feed seven hungry tiger cubs.

Day Eleven | Taxila

The extraordinary archaeological site of **Taxila** merits a full day's visit. Here are represented the remnants of several settlements spanning thousands of years, from the Neolithic Saraikala mound and the Achaemenian Bhir mound, and the fortified Indo-Bactrian city of Sirkap, through to Buddhist stupas and monasteries and Muslim mosques, tombs and madrassas.

Day Twelve | Rawalpindi - Islamabad - London

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

Please note there are some lengthy drives during this tour in order to visit certain locations.





Guided by
Dr Mehreen Chida-Razvi
Mehreen is a Research Associate in the Department of the History of Art & Archaeology at SOAS, University of London, and Assistant Editor for the International Journal of Islamic Architecture.

Price includes

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites & museums
- Field notes
- All taxes & gratuities

Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

Accommodation

- Accommodation in Karachi, Sukkur, Bahawalpur, Multan, Lahore & Rawalpindi

Culinary inclusions

- 8 breakfasts, 10 lunch & 10 dinners
- Water with all meals, tea or coffee with dinner

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
7th - 18th Oct	£6,200	£1,095

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/apak



50% OFF SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Carthage & Roman Tunisia

Stand before the mighty ancient amphitheatre of El Djem

10 DAYS

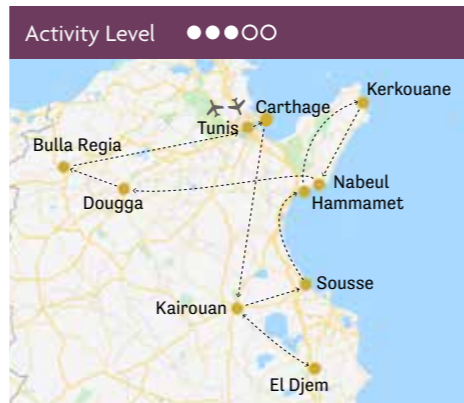
From £2,995pp

Departing November

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.

Tour Highlights

- 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



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**, now a wealthy suburb of Tunis, but scattered with the remains of this once great Phoenician city. We start our day at Byrsa Hill, once the citadel and a central feature of the Punic settlement. There are fantastic views over the modern city from here. Next we continue to the disquieting Salambo Tophet, a cemetery which contained the remains of children who were sacrificed to Tanit, after they were already dead, or, more likely, as live victims. We also visit the Cothon, or harbour, testament to Carthage's famous maritime might; the Roman Antonine Baths, one of the largest in the whole of the Roman empire and the huge cisterns which supplied them.

Day Three | Tunis

This morning we begin with a visit to the famous **Bardo Museum**, situated in an old Beylical palace. It houses one of the most important collections of mosaics anywhere in the world. Highlights include the Virgil Mosaic and the Odysseus Mosaic, as well as many depicting beast hunts. There is a wonderful collection of Carthaginian artefacts and Paleo



Christian baptisteries. In the afternoon we study a section of the Carthage **aqueduct at Jebel Oust**, before exploring nearby **Oudna**, a city established by Emperor Augustus for retired soldiers of the Third Legion.

Day Four | Tunis - Dougga

We drive west to **Dougga**, one of the best preserved and most famous ancient sites in North Africa. Here, 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. Dougga is one of the Roman world's best sites and a visit here is always a memorable one.

Day Five | Bulla Regia

We start at the ancient site of **Musti**, once a town of some importance but still largely unexcavated before continuing north to **Bulla Regia**. The city was made the Numidian capital by Massinissa and here we will explore a bath complex, as well as a series of houses, replete with mosaics, which have underground rooms, offering their elite owners protection from the African heat. These houses include the impressive House of the Hunt and the House of Amphitrite. From here, we continue north to Hammamet.

Day Six | Dougga - Kairouan

We journey south to the delightful and little visited site of **Thuburbo Majus**. Originally Punic (though it has a characteristic *Th* sound associated with Numidian cities), the city was later re-founded as a Roman veteran colony in the Augustan period. Here we will explore the forum, dominated by the



Capitolium, before moving on to the Winter Baths and Summer Baths. In between the two, there is the well-preserved Palaestra of Petronius, which belonged to the Summer Baths, and a memorable latrine. We walk up to view some temples with a Punic flavour: the Temple of Baalit and Temple of Caelestis, both Romanised names of Punic goddesses. 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 and into the late antique period when it was an olive oil production centre. On the back of this wealth, the city built several amphitheatres, the most important of which was built in the 3rd century AD and is one of the largest in the empire. We will explore this huge structure – visible for miles – and continue to the **museum of El Djem**, which has a wonderful collection of mosaics, as well as in situ houses, which provide glimpses of the city's wealth. This afternoon we return to Kairouan to visit the **Great Mosque**, which has a plethora of reused Roman pillars and lintels and explore the city's medina.

Day Eight | Kairouan - Hammamet

We travel to **Sousse** to visit its museum, located in the city's 12th century kasbah and which has the second largest collection of mosaics in the world, after the Bardo. The earliest artefacts in the museum date from the city's Punic period, when it was called Hadrumentus. The most splendid, however, date from the prosperous Roman period, when the citizens of Hadrumentus, made rich from trade, could afford the best mosaics in the Roman empire. Here we will see mosaics which testify to this maritime background, the most famous of which is the large mosaic of Neptune on his chariot. From here we continue north to Hammamet.

Day Nine | Kerkouane

Today we drive along the Cap Bon Peninsula, the point of Tunisia that is closest to Sicily. Our morning will be spent at **Kerkouane**, a UNESCO-listed site

overlooking the sea. It was inhabited from the 7th to 3rd century BC and it was abandoned after the first Punic War, making it the only purely Punic site in Africa. The highlights of this site are the houses that typically contain bathtubs waterproofed with a pinkish mortar. We visit the site museum, which has interesting remains from the nearby necropolis. We have a picnic on site here before travelling to **Nabeul** – today famed for its ceramics but in antiquity a trading port founded by Cyrene. On arrival, we visit the museum to view its mosaics and to read about the production of garum in the area.

Day Ten | Hammamet - Tunis - London

We transfer to Tunis airport for our flight home.



Guided by Tony O'Connor

Join Tony on our 9th Nov departure.



Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall

Join Eireann on our 18th Nov departure.

Price 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, The Sindbad & Hotel Thugga or similar

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date		Twin/Dbl Share	SS
FULL	9th -18th Nov	£2,995	£365
	18th - 27th Nov	£2,995	£182

For full details of this tour visit
andantetravels.co.uk/acrt



"We thoroughly enjoyed this tour, which was led by a really excellent archaeologist, Elizabeth Baquedano. Her enthusiasm and specialist knowledge, which was generously shared, as well as her friendly approach to everyone really made the trip."

Guest, December 2022

Mexico

The Maya

16 DAYS

From £6,340pp

Departing November

Of all the Mesoamerican civilisations, the Maya have enjoyed the most enduring hold on the imagination. For years, their jungle-clad ruins remained intriguing, yet shrouded in mystery. An adventurous trip, this tour starts with museums in Mexico City, travels via the uplands of Chiapas, along the river of Usumacinta and on to the Yucatán peninsula.

Tour Highlights

- View the Aztec Templo Mayor
- Encounter enduring Maya traditions among the Chiapas communities
- Discover Palenque, considered the most beautiful of all the Maya cities
- Travel in 4x4s and then by motor-launch boat to the remote site of Yaxchilán, famous for its architecture
- Explore the ball court, observatory, sacred well and the great pyramid of Kukulcan at the awe-inspiring city of Chichén Itzá



Day One | London - Mexico City

We fly to Mexico City and transfer to our hotel, where dinner awaits us later.

Day Two | Mexico City

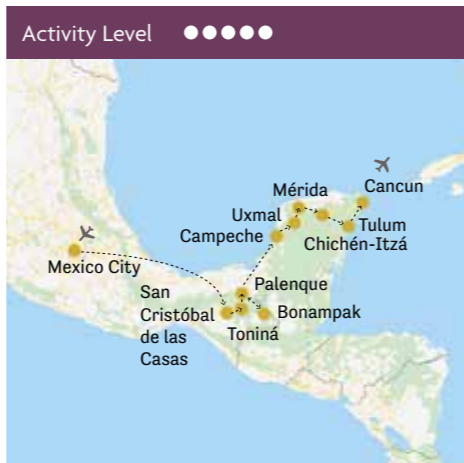
Our day begins with an exploration of the remains of the **Templo Mayor**, once the sacred heart of Tenochtitlan – the Aztec capital. We also combine this with a visit to the **excellent museum**. In the afternoon, we walk to the **National Palace**, where we can stand before Diego Rivera's magnificent murals.

Day Three | Mexico City

The majority of our day will be spent at the **National Museum of Anthropology**, with collections spanning every era of Mexico's richly-textured past. Lunch will be at the museum, which allows us to get the most out of our visit here. Later in the afternoon, we return to the hotel with free time to relax ahead of our group dinner.

Day Four | Mexico City - San Cristóbal de las Casas

Today we fly south to **Tuxtla Gutiérrez**, on the edge of the Chiapas Highlands. We visit the



archaeological site of **Chiapa de Corzo** on arrival and have lunch in the town. This afternoon we drive on to San Cristóbal de las Casas – the great centre of traditional Maya culture.

Day Five | San Cristóbal de las Casas

Our full day of visits begins with **Chamula**, one of the most fiercely independent of all Maya towns. Here, the local community have famously been left to largely run their own affairs. The use of the Church of San Juan is a symbol of this – the Catholic clergy are absent most of the year and, instead, traditional Maya priests or shamans minister to the local population. On most days, the church's interior is filled with chanting priests and their clients. Candles flicker, pine needles coat the floor and, on occasion, a chicken is sacrificed. We return to San Cristóbal for lunch with free time to enter **Santo Domingo Church**, stroll along the cobbled streets of the local market or visit the new museum devoted to Maya textiles. In the evening, we visit the museum at **Casa Na Bolom** and have dinner.

Day Six | Toniná - Palenque

We drive east to **Toniná**, located in the hills above the fertile Ocosingo Valley. On the periphery of



the Maya area, it seems to have been one of the longest lasting Maya cities, possessing the very latest Maya 'Long Count' date known, from 15th January 909 AD. Other hieroglyphic evidence points to Toniná having engaged in sporadic warfare with Palenque, some 100 kilometres to the north.

Day Seven | Palenque

A full day among the ruins of **Palenque** awaits, positioned on the lower slopes of a range of jungle-clad hills and with broad views across the floodplain of the Usumacinta River. The city possesses art and architecture of remarkable quality, most famously in the well-preserved 'Palace' complex and the 'Temple of the Inscriptions', where Palenque's greatest king – Pacal – lies buried in a huge sarcophagus. Hieroglyphic texts here have been crucial in piecing together the story of Palenque's rulers – a dynasty that lasted from c. 430 to 800 AD.

Day Eight | Bonampak - Yaxchilán

This morning, we travel in 4x4s first to the famous Maya site of **Bonampak**, known for the remarkable preservation of its vividly painted murals. From Bonampak, we continue to the **Usumacinta River** and journey by motor-launch downriver to the jungle site of **Yaxchilán**, constructed within a horseshoe bend in the river. It is a remote, atmospheric place, with many of the buildings being well-preserved though devoid of some of the famous carved lintels. A number of these were removed by the British explorer Alfred Maudslay in the 1880s and can now be seen on display in the 'Mexican Gallery' of the British Museum in London.

Day Nine | Palenque - Campeche

A drive north brings us to the coastal city of **Campeche**, founded by Spanish settlers in 1540 and with a fine Colonial centre that we explore later.

Day Ten | Campeche - Uxmal

Our day begins at the remote site of **Edzná**, which has a grand plaza, a five-storey main temple complex or acropolis, and it also originally possessed a system of dams and canals that were constructed as early as 150 BC. The next stop is **Sayil**, a ruined late Classic city, whose population peaked at around 12,000 during the city's height

around 850 AD. Before travelling on to Uxmal, we end the day at **Kabah** – a small site known for its 'House of the Masks'.

Day Eleven | Uxmal - Mérida

We devote our morning to **Uxmal**, renowned for the elegance of its architecture and the exceptional state of preservation its buildings show. The tallest structure is the **Pyramid of the Magician**, built in five separate stages. Later, we continue to **Mérida**, Yucatán's cultural capital, where free time awaits.

Day Twelve | Mérida - Chichén Itzá

Remaining in **Mérida**, we visit the new **Mundo Maya Museum**, which covers the history of the Yucatán, from the earliest times to the Colonial period. Later, we head to **Izamal** and visit the **Franciscan Monastery**, which is built on top of a Maya pyramid.

Day Thirteen | Chichén Itzá

Today we encounter one of the most visited and impressive of all Maya cities – **Chichén Itzá**. Entering early in the day, we tour the immense Ball Court and Temple Pyramid. After lunch, we visit the lesser-known walled city of **Ek Balam** and can climb the steps of its largest pyramid for views of the jungle.

Day Fourteen | Chichén Itzá - Tulum

Our morning is spent at the ruins of **Cobá**, where over 30 carved stelae have been found. Next, we make our way to the small coastal site of **Tulum**.

Day Fifteen & Sixteen | Tulum - Cancun - London

A leisurely morning at our beach-side hotel awaits and then we transfer to the airport in Cancun for our return flight to London, arriving on Day Sixteen.



Guided by Dr Elizabeth Baquedano

A Mesoamerican specialist, Elizabeth is Senior Honorary Lecturer at the Institute of Archaeology, UCL.

Price 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 Hampton Inn & Suites Mexico City, Hotel Casa Mexicana, Hotel Villa Mercedes, Hotel Plaza Campeche, Hotel Hacienda Uxmal, Gamma Mérida El Castellano, Hotel Villas Arqueológicas Chichén Itzá & Hotel Dreams Tulum or similar

Culinary inclusions

- 14 breakfasts, 14 lunches & 14 dinners
- Water with all meals, tea or coffee with dinner

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
20th Nov - 5 Dec	£6,340	£810

For full details of this tour visit
andantetravels.co.uk/amex

The UK

With its wealth of heritage that encompasses everything from the literary world to military history, the United Kingdom may at first seem an unlikely destination for a holiday but for those fascinated by the past, it is nothing short of ideal.

There is, without a doubt, a lot to discover here in the UK and our collection of tours aims to showcase the archaeology, culture and history on offer.

Prehistoric Ireland

See the iconic Megalithic sites of Newgrange & Knowth

8 DAYS

From £3,225pp

Departing September

Experience the fascinating prehistory of Ireland on a tour which links two equally important regions of Ireland. From the Neolithic monuments in the fertile land of the Boyne Valley, we cross the island westwards to the wild landscapes of the Atlantic Coast and Galway. The monumental passage tomb of Newgrange is but one of the highlights as our journey takes us to numerous sites of significance including the Hill of Tara, once seat of the High Kings of Ireland; Carrowmore, the largest and oldest prehistoric cemetery site in Ireland and a visit to Dun Aengus on the largest and most mysterious of the Arran Islands, Inis Mor.

Tour Highlights

- Take a boat trip to the island of Inis Mor and visit Dun Aengus
- View one of the largest examples of an Irish Court Tomb at Creevykeel
- Admire the collection of prehistoric artefacts at the National Museum of Dublin
- Visit the Hill of Tara with over 30 visible monuments, including the Stone of Destiny



Activity Level

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Guided by Dr Jeremy Bennett

A British archaeologist, Jeremy was awarded his PhD at Magdalene College, Cambridge. His research focuses on the development of agrarian landscapes of Malta & Gozo.

Price 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 Dublin, the Boyna Valley, Sligo & Galway

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
3rd – 10th Sep	£3,225	£535

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/aire



Roman Cumbria

Explore the north-west frontier of Roman Britain

5 DAYS

From £1,795pp

Departing September

Roman presence in the north-west was by no means concentrated only around the area of Hadrian's Wall. Wherever you travel in Cumbria, there is evidence of the trail they blazed during those four centuries when the greater part of Britain became a province of the mighty Roman Empire.

Activity Level

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Guided by Tony Wilmott

Tony specialises in the Roman and Late Antique periods, with particular interests in the Roman military and frontiers, in Roman religion, and also in the late and post-Roman transition.

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
13th - 17th Sep	£1,795	£495

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/acum



Colchester - Capital of Britannia

Britain's oldest town through the ages

3 DAYS

From £760pp

Departing September

The first Roman capital of Britannia, Colchester boasts some of the most important archaeological remains that survive from Roman Britain. Walking through the historic town, highlights include the foundations of the massive temple of Claudius, the earliest Roman town walls, and exceptional mosaics.

Activity Level

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Guided by Peter Berridge

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
29th Sep - 1st Oct	£760	£195

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/ascb



The Picts

Investigating the heritage of the 'painted people'

4 DAYS

From £1,295pp

Departing September

The Picts were long considered to be a mysterious lost people from a very dark age, to the extent that entirely erroneous origin myths were created for them in recent centuries. This tour will explore how, even though they left behind no surviving documents, the Picts helped lay the foundation of modern Scotland.

Activity Level

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Guided by Peter Yeoman

Peter has written official guidebooks for Iona Abbey, Stirling Castle and also for Edinburgh Castle.

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
18th - 21st Sep	£1,295	£245

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/appa



Behind the Scenes in Roman Kent

Exploring Roman Kent, Canterbury, Dover and more

3 DAYS

From £810pp

Departing October

Roman Kent formed the vital link between the often-wayward province of Britannia and the continental Empire, with the English Channel the vital connective route between the two. This is a special behind the scenes tour of the region which explores the new excavations taking place.

Activity Level

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Guided by Dr Simon Elliott

Dr Simon Elliott is a best-selling author and has written books on a wide variety of classical history subjects.

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
13th - 15th Oct	£810	£135

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/asrk

Festive Tours

It may only be July, but it won't be long before a decision has to be made as to where and who you spend Christmas and New Year with. If you want to avoid particular family members and maybe that annoying friend (you know who they are!), and as an early present to yourself, then why not join either Oliver Gilkes, Tony O'Connor or Dr Eireann Marshall on one of our festive tours.

Even if you have been to Rome, Bologna or Florence before, visiting over the festive season is a different experience. Sites and museums are less crowded, but you can still enjoy the jovial atmosphere that comes when people gather together to celebrate.

Christmas is a wonderful time to visit Rome as the city, the streets are brightly lit and decorated, the churches display their ancient cribs, and the city celebrates.

Join us as we explore the archaeological remains and gastronomic history of Bologna. Led by Tony O'Connor this unique tour will satisfy even the most voracious of appetites for food and for history as we discover the home of tagliatelle, tortellini, mortadella, ragu and more.

Discover how Florence, a small Roman settlement prone to annual flooding, became the powerhouse of the Renaissance and the greatest city in Europe. Join award-winning Guide Lecturer Dr Eireann Marshall on this tour and celebrate the New Year with your fellow Andante travellers.



Christmas in Rome

6 DAYS From £2,995pp Departing December

Christmas is a wonderful time to visit Rome as the city, the streets are brightly lit and decorated, the churches display their ancient cribs, and the city celebrates. An exhilarating and intimate destination where the glories of its ancient past mingle with museums, art-filled churches and Renaissance piazzas, this is the perfect introduction to the 'Eternal City' led by Oliver Gilkes, who will bring to life triumphs, tragedies and political intrigue that characterised the Roman Empire. We stay at the Hotel Albergo Santa Chiara in the very heart of the ancient city, situated directly behind the Pantheon, the perfect base for exploring Rome. It has been privately owned by the Corteggiani family since 1838 and consequently retains a feel of personal warmth and friendliness.

- Tour Highlights**
- Explore the atmospheric, underground service tunnels of the mighty Colosseum
 - Enjoy the glorious collections and masterpieces on view at the Capitoline Museums
 - Discover some extraordinary 'hidden' gems as well as some world-famous classical sites

Day One | London - Rome

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

Day Two | Rome

We start our morning at the **Capitoline Museum**. A joy to explore, these Museums are home to one of the finest and oldest collections of ancient sculpture in Rome. Afterwards we visit one of Rome's hidden gems situated beneath the **Palazzo Valentini**. Here we find the well-preserved remains of a former Roman private bath house and two residences of powerful families from the imperial era. A visit here is always immersive and fun.

Day Three | Rome

Our day begins with a visit to the **Colosseum**, the iconic Flavian Amphitheatre – the largest of its type ever constructed. Here we enjoy an especially arranged visit to the underground service tunnels. Afterwards we explore another of Rome's surprises, the **Church of San Clemente**. We take an afternoon walk through the heart of ancient Rome, passing through the **Forum**, along the **Imperial Fora**, and finish at Trajan's Column.

Day Four | Rome

We begin the day with a visit to the **Borghese Gallery**, a 17th-century villa, which houses a spectacular art collection of ancient and Renaissance masterpiece. We continue to the Non-Catholic cemetery of Rome, tucked inside the Aurelian walls which is the final resting place of Shelley and Keats and adjacent to the iconic **Pyramid of Gaius Cestius**. We finish the day with a visit to the wonderful **Montemartini Museum**.

Day Five | Rome (Christmas Day)

On Christmas Day, we stroll through the **Field of Mars**, originally an open area lying just outside Rome's earliest defences. The modern street system in Rome is a medieval labyrinth, and we walk through the winding roads and alleys to the Vatican in order to hear the **Pope's Christmas message**. It is a lovely city to find yourself on Christmas morning. After Christmas lunch you may rest or enjoy a further walk through the city.

Day Six | Rome - London

This morning we visit **Ostia Antica** then continue to the airport for our late afternoon flight home.

Activity Level ●●●○○



Guided by Oliver Gilkes
One of Andante's longest-standing guide lecturers, Oliver has worked as both a field and museum archaeologist.

- Price includes**
- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
 - Entry to all sites & museums
 - Field Notes
 - All taxes & gratuities

- Included travel**
- Return flights from London & all local transport

- Accommodation**
- Accommodation in the Hotel Albergo Santa Chiara

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

Dates & prices per person		
Date	Twin/Db'l Share	SS
21st - 26th Dec	£2,995	£295

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/arox



Festive Food & Archeaology in Bologna

7 DAYS

From £4,195pp

Departing December

Join us as we explore the archaeological remains and gastronomic history of Bologna. This unique tour will satisfy even the most voracious of appetites for food and for history as we discover the home of tagliatelle, tortellini, mortadella, ragu and more. And what better time could you find to taste the millennial fruits of culinary evolution than at Christmas? The Emilian menu includes some of Italy's most famous products such as Parmesan cheese and Parma ham which have been made for over 2,000 years, as well as the luxurious balsamic vinegar. We visit eclectic and fascinating museums and enjoy some sumptuous meals that would have satisfied even an Etruscan appetite! Our hotel, the Corona D'oro, an historic property which once belonged to the powerful Azzoguidi family, is situated in the heart of the city, a short walk from the landmark towers and the Piazza Maggiore.

Tour Highlights

- Enjoy the glories of 'La Grasse', the 'Fat City' of Italy with its towering medieval edifices and the best of Italian cuisine
- Hunt for truffles, make your own fresh pasta and see how Parmesan is made
- Discover the fascinating Etruscan site of Marzabotto in the foothills of the Apennines

Day One | London - Bologna

We fly to Bologna and transfer to our hotel.

Day Two | Bologna

This morning we visit Podere san Guliano, where we enjoy a **cooking presentation** of Bologna's famous dish: tagliatelle al ragu. Back in Bologna we take a short walk through the old market streets to the **Basilica of San Petronio**, named after the 5th century bishop of Bologna and the church complex of **Santo Stefano**.

Day Three | Bologna & Modena

An early start sees us at a tasting of the region's most famous cheese, **Parmigiano Reggiano**, produced in the Parma-Reggio region, at least since the 13th century. Afterwards we visit the family run production of traditional **Balsamic Vinegar**. In the afternoon we will visit Modena's historic centre to see the Duomo as well as **Modena's Archaeological Museum**.

Day Four | Bologna (New Year's Day)

This morning we have a leisurely start before visiting

the **Archaeological Museum of Bologna** which contains artefacts from Bologna's rich history and includes an impressive Egyptian collection.

Day Five | Bologna

Our focus this morning is on **medieval Bologna**. We will also see some of the city's **Towers**, another essential element of medieval Bologna. Their exact purpose is disputed but at one time it is thought there were over 100 in the city. After lunch we visit the unique Carpi **Gelato Museum**, where we will have a guided tour and tasting.

Day Six | Marzabotto

Today we take a walk in the woods of the Bolognese Apennines with a local expert and government approved truffle hunter. Later we head to the Etruscan city remains at **Marzabotto**, a lovely rural site in the Reno river valley.

Day Seven | Ferrara - Bologna - London

This morning we travel to Ferrara where we visit the **Este Castle** followed by the **Palazzo Schifanoia**. We fly back to London early evening.





Guided by Tony O'Connor

Tony O'Connor graduated in Ancient History and Archaeology from Manchester University, specialising in the Roman Empire and the Phoenicians.

Price includes

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites and museums
- Field Notes
- All taxes & gratuities

Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

Accommodation

- Accommodation in the Hotel Corona D'oro

Culinary inclusions

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

Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	SS
29th Dec - 4th Jan 24	£4,195	£655

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/abff

Images top to bottom: Neptune statue in Bologna and Tagliatelle Al Ragu



Florence at New Year

6 DAYS

From £3,295pp

Departing December

Discover how Florence, a small Roman settlement prone to annual flooding, became the powerhouse of the Renaissance and the greatest city in Europe. Underpinning its success was its extraordinary levels of economic development, in particular its banking which financed nations and Popes alike. This wealth fuelled a staggering flourishing of the arts, from the development of opera, to the masterpieces of literature which made Florentine the basis of the Italian language, to the unparalleled art works forged by its army of extraordinary painters and sculptors. This tour traces the development of this unique city, immersing the guest in its exquisite art and architecture, including the Medici chapel, Baptistery and the wonderful Basilica of Santa Croce.

Tour Highlights

- Visit the National Archaeological Museum, one of the oldest and most important museums in Italy, renowned for its significant Etruscan collection
- Discover world-class art at the Uffizi, with a pre-booked entry time that will help avoid the usual queues
- Explore the Etruscan Temple and bath complex at Fiesole

Day One | London - Fiesole

Fly from London to Pisa and transfer to our hotel in **Fiesole**. Here, we visit the excavated sanctuary in the archaeological park, the 4th century Etruscan Temple, Roman theatre and bath complex.

Day Two | Florence

Today we explore the glories of Florence on foot, walking from the **Ponte Vecchio** and making our way to the **Piazza della Signoria**, dominated by a copy of Michelangelo's David in its original location and the **Loggia della Signoria**. We continue to the **Baptistery**, the **San Lorenzo**, the **Medici Chapel**, and the **Basilica of Santa Croce**.

Day Three | Florence

We spend the morning at the **National Archaeological Museum**, one of the oldest and most important museums in Italy. This afternoon is spent in the world class **Uffizi Gallery**. Immerse yourself in the glories of Renaissance masterpieces such as Botticelli's Birth of Venus and Spring. We regroup for our pre-booked visit to the **Accademia** where you can admire Michelangelo's David and his

Slaves. We meet again for our New Year's Eve celebrations.

Day Four | Florence

This morning there will be a leisurely start and a gentle walk to the **Palazzo Strozzi** in the heart of Florence. We continue to the **Santa Maria Novella**, the 13th-15th century church which is the first of the great basilicas in Florence. Later, we visit the **Palazzo Vecchio**, the symbolic monument of the city and, for over seven centuries, the seat of its government.

Day Five | Florence


Today we visit two extraordinary museums, the **Palazzo Pitti** and the **Bargello National Museum**. Enjoy some free time this afternoon to explore this magnificent city on your own.

Day Six | Florence - London

We transfer to Pisa airport for our journey home.

Images top to bottom: Florence fireworks & The Cupola of Florence Duomo





Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall

An Honorary Research Fellow for the Open University, Eireann is bilingual (Italian and English) and she has led many Andante tours.

Price includes

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites & museums
- Field notes
- All taxes & gratuities

Included travel

- Return flights from London & all local transport

Accommodation

- Accommodation in Florence

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
28th Dec '23 - 2nd Jan '24	£3,295	£535

For full details of this tour visit andantetravels.co.uk/aflx

Explore in 2024



Our programme for 2024 includes tours that can take you not only to the 'bucket list' archaeological sites, but also to those that might appeal to the adventurer within. Wander among the UNESCO-listed Roman site of Timgad in Algeria with its immaculate gridded plan, explore the extensive site of the Great Zimbabwe in the country of the same name, or discover the Inca fortress of Kuelap, built between 600 and 900 years before Machu Picchu, in Peru's lesser-visited north.

In addition to our perennial favourites such as our Pompeii tour and others across Italy, Europe and worldwide, we are particularly excited for 2024 to come around because we have a grand total of 18 brand new itineraries on offer, which can take you from the wild plains of Thrace to the Neolithic site of Çatalhöyük, discovering everything from the history of the Samnites to the incredible caves in South Africa where the origins of humankind can be traced. All of the tours are led by expert Guide Lecturers, and we are delighted to be visiting some destinations that are new to our expanding portfolio including a cruise itinerary featured in our dedicated cruise brochure. Our collection of cruises continues to increase as this way of travelling keeps growing in popularity.

If you have not already seen what is in store for 2024 then either visit our website or call **01722 671 672** to order a copy of our latest brochures.



Call our team to book
your tour today:

01722 671 672

Or visit our website:
andantetravels.co.uk