ANCIENT CITIES OF NORTH AFRICA AND THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

WITH CORNELL PROFESSOR SCOTT MACDONALD
The Norma K. Regan Professor in Christian Studies

Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship DIANA
August 15-27, 2023
Dear Cornellians & Friends,

We are delighted to invite you to join Cornell Professor Scott MacDonald on a voyage from Lisbon to Palermo as we discover the rich cultural and religious history of the ancient cities that dot the shores of Iberia and North Africa.

The story of this region of the world can be told from many perspectives. As a historian of religion and philosophy, Professor MacDonald is particularly interested in the Jewish, Islamic, and Christian interactions at the center of intellectual life in medieval Andalusia, as well as in the efforts of Christian thinkers in North Africa, like St. Augustine, to accommodate Greek philosophy. For a medievalist, the narrative begins with the rapid spread of Islam across North Africa and the Iberian Peninsula in the 6th-8th centuries and ends with the Spanish reconquest of Granada in 1492. From a modern perspective, it is a story of the French colonization of Tunisia and Algeria, the rise of nationalism and Islam, and the "Arab Spring" of the 2010s.

During this voyage, we will touch on chapters of all these stories. In southern Iberia, Arab influences are found everywhere, but especially in cosmopolitan Seville, where we can trace the legacies of Muslim and Catholic Spain as they mingle in the monuments of this great city. In North Africa, where the Islamic heritage is very much alive and well, we visit the ancient medinas and markets of Tangier, Tetouan, and Oran. Further to the east, the ancient world is spectacularly represented in the tomb of King Juba II in Tipasa and by the UNESCO-designated Roman ruins at Djemila. And in Tunis, we find ourselves at the site of the ruins of Carthage—and also at the starting point of the Arab Spring.

Sharing the lecture podium with Professor MacDonald, will be two experts on the geopolitics of the region: Jim Falk, retired president of the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth and currently Program Chair of the Global Santa Fe Council; and Dartmouth's Diederik Vandewalle, an expert on Middle Eastern politics and political economy.

Our vessel for this extraordinary journey will be a state-of-the-art, new-generation expedition cruise ship, currently nearing completion in Finland and due to launch in early 2023. Accommodating only 192 guests in beautifully appointed staterooms and balcony suites, Swan Hellenic’s Diana will feature several lounges, a restaurant, outdoor cafe, swimming pool, spa, and library and will be equipped with the latest safety and environmentally-friendly technology.

Please join Scott MacDonald and fellow alumni and friends of Cornell's Adult University aboard Diana in August 2023 to discover some of the remarkably rich stories of the Ancient Cities of North Africa and the Iberian Peninsula.

Sincerely,

Lora K. Gruber-Hine, PhD
Director, Cornell’s Adult University
Alumni Affairs and Development

CORNELL PROFESSOR

Scott MacDonald is Professor of Philosophy and Norma K. Regan Professor in Christian Studies at Cornell University where he has served on the faculties of the Medieval Studies and Religious Studies programs and in the graduate field of Classics. He holds a BA from Cornell ('78) and advanced degrees from the University of St. Andrews (BD '81) and Cornell (PhD ‘86). His research interests include ancient and medieval philosophy, early Christian thought, and philosophical theology. His interests focus especially on historical moments at which intellectual cultures collide. He has published widely in these areas and is currently at work on projects encompassing three great texts that define Augustine of Hippo’s mature thought: Confessions, De trinitate, and De genesi ad litteram. His book, Augustine’s Confessions, is forthcoming in the Oxford Guides to Philosophy series from Oxford University Press.

MacDonald has held fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Humanities Center, and is a past recipient of the Provost’s Award for Distinguished Scholarship. At Cornell he has served as the Stanford H. Taylor ‘50 Chair of the Sage School of Philosophy, Senior Associate Dean in the College of Arts & Sciences, and the Dale R. Corson House Professor-Dean of Hans A. Bethe House on Cornell's West Campus.

GUEST LECTURERS

Diederik Vandewalle is an Associate Professor of government at Dartmouth College and an Adjunct Professor at Dartmouth’s Tuck School of Business. An expert on oil-related development in the Middle East and North Africa, Vandewalle has conducted Fulbright research fellowships in the Arab Gulf, Indonesia, Morocco, and Yemen. He is an internationally recognized expert on the region and served as political advisor to the United Nations Special Mission in Libya in 2011, as well as Director of the Carter Center electoral mission in Libya in 2012 and 2014. He holds a Ph.D. and M. Phil, M.A., and M.I.A. degrees from Columbia University and received his B.A. from Southwest State University in Minnesota.

Jim Falk, President Emeritus of the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth, retired in March 2021 after serving as the organization’s president since 2001. Now residing in Santa Fe, New Mexico he is member of the Board of Global Santa Fe where he chairs the program committee. Additionally, Jim co-hosts The McCuistion Program, a public affairs program, that airs weekly on KERA-Dallas (PBS).

He is a graduate of Washington and Lee University and earned his MA in Foreign Affairs at the University of Virginia specializing in international law Middle East politics. Currently, he serves as an advisory member of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition (USGLC) and The Asia Society, Texas and is a trustee of World Neighbors.

Cover: Arch of Caracalla, Djemila, Algeria

FOR RESERVATIONS AND INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THALASSA JOURNEYS TOLL-FREE 866–633–3611
Currently under construction in Finland and launching in early March 2023, Swan Hellenic's *Diana* is a new-generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 12,100 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 350 passengers, *Diana* will accommodate a maximum of 192 guests in 96 spacious staterooms and balcony suites. The low guest density results in one of the most generous indoor and outdoor space-to-guest ratios among cruise ships.

Featuring the latest advances in technology and engineering, *Diana* is among the world's first environmentally-responsible ships. Equipped with hybrid engines, a system of powerful batteries, and a unique water filtration system, *Diana* leaves a minimal footprint. For cruising in Polar regions, the ship meets the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code with its high PC5 Category A ice-strengthened hull and other advanced features. A computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 135 experienced European officers and international crew members, *Diana* will carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, and kayaks. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

*Diana*’s interior spaces exude sophisticated elegance, with most staterooms opening to panoramic views of the sea. All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, Wi-Fi and USB connections and other amenities. Of the ship’s 96 staterooms, 76 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for lectures and presentations; a club lounge; a restaurant that accommodates all guests at one seating; an outdoor café/bar that surrounds the heated swimming pool; a wellness area with gym, spa, and sauna with an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor and nurse. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis. The outstanding cuisine is complemented by fine wines at lunch and dinner.

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**ITINERARY**

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023**  
**DEPART THE UNITED STATES**

**Wednesday, August 16**  
**LISBON, PORTUGAL**  
Arrive in Lisbon. Stay overnight at a deluxe hotel in Lisbon. In the evening, meet fellow travelers for a welcome dinner at the hotel. (D)

**Thursday, August 17**  
**LISBON/EMBARKATION**  
Following breakfast at the hotel, tour Lisbon’s highlights including the Belem Quarter and the Jeronimos Monastery, a UNESCO World Heritage monument that is a superb example of Portuguese Manueline style. Also visit historic Belem Tower, the point from which many Portuguese explorers, including Vasco da Gama, set sail. Late in the afternoon, transfer to the pier to embark Diana and set sail. (B,L,D)

**Friday, August 18**  
**PORTIMAO**  
Portimao is our gateway to the Algarve and to Silves and Monchique. Silves is a typical Algarve village of cobblestoned streets lined with shops selling local handicrafts, many of them housed in buildings characteristic of the period of Islamic rule. Silves Castle, the best-preserved castle in the region, offers panoramic views of the town and the surrounding countryside. In Monchique, we will visit Caldas de Monchique, the hot springs famous since antiquity for their healing waters and among the most-visited places in the Algarve. (B,L,D)

**Saturday, August 19**  
**SEVILLE, SPAIN**  
Occupied by the Romans, conquered by Islamic invaders, and ruled by a succession of Catholic monarchs, Seville is one of Europe’s most important and affluent maritime cities. After docking in the city along the banks of the Guadalquivir River, explore the Alcazar, the oldest royal palace still in use in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Travel to the historic Barrio Santa Cruz, a neighborhood of labyrinthine streets and alleys dating to the Middle Ages, when it was the old Jewish Quarter. Enjoy some time at leisure, as the ship remains docked overnight. (B,L,D)

**Sunday, August 20**  
**SEVILLE**  
This morning, tour Seville’s large and fanciful Gothic Cathedral—the largest Gothic cathedral in the world and the burial site of Christopher Columbus. See the Cathedral's main points of interest, including the Capilla Mayor and La Giralda—the intricately detailed bell tower that is the city’s most well-known symbol. Also visit Maria Luisa Park, once a private garden attached to the Palace of San Telmo, now Seville’s largest public green space. (B,L,D)

**Monday, August 21**  
**TANGIER, MOROCCO/TETOUAN**  
Founded by the Phoenicians in the seventh century BC, Tangier was ruled by Arabs in the early 8th-century, when it and nearby Tetouan were used as bases for the invasion of southern Spain. Explore Tangier’s, a classic Moroccan town of narrow lanes and stepped passages, dominated by a kasbah. Then travel to Tetouan, which was rebuilt in the 15th century by Andalusian refugees who had been expelled during the Spanish reconquest. Although it is a small medina, Tetouan’s is among the most authentic, having been largely untouched by later outside influences. (B,L,D)

**Tuesday, August 22**  
**ORAN, ALGERIA**  
Oran, like much of North Africa, has been ruled by a variety of powers—Berbers, Arabs, Ottomans, Spanish, and French. Today, as the second largest city in Algeria, it is a center of commerce, industry, and culture. We will explore several of Oran’s highlights, including the 17th-century Fort Santa Cruz that overlooks the city and the Sidi El Houari district. We will also visit the Medina Jedida, a massive market selling flowers,
textiles, jewelry, and souvenirs of every description. Here we will have the opportunity to sample Algerian street food, including kerentica, a cake made with chickpea flower and eggs that is a specialty of Oran. (B,L,D)

**Wednesday, August 23**

**ALGIERS/TIPASA**

Located about 40 miles west of Algiers, Tipasa’s ancient temples and ruins overlook the Mediterranean to dramatic effect. Visit the Villa of Frescoes, a Roman mansion; the second-century Judicial Basilica; a 4th-century Christian Basilica; the site’s museum; and the Tombeau de la Chretienne, burial place of Mauritanian King Juba II and his wife, Cleopatra Selene. Time permitting, we will discover some of the delights of contemporary Algiers before returning to the ship. (B,L,D)

**Thursday, August 24**

**BAJAIA/DJEMILA**

From the port of Bejaia, a drive into the hills of the interior brings us to Djemila, which the UNESCO World Heritage convention describes as “one of the world’s most beautiful Roman ruins.” The site includes a Triumphal Arch to Emperor Caracalla, built in AD 216; Grand Baths; a market; and the Old Forum, featuring stunning friezes and a third-century altar. Also visit the local museum, exhibiting a superb collection of mosaics and other artifacts. (B,L,D)

**Friday, August 25**

**ANNABA/HIPPO REGIUS**

Annaba is home to the ancient site of Hippo Regius, once ruled by Phoenicians, Romans, Vandals, and Byzantines, among others. Explore Hippo’s Roman Forum, the largest and oldest in North Africa, and visit the Baths dedicated to Septimius Severus. At the nearby modern Basilica of St. Augustine, we will enjoy the hilltop view over the ruins and the rest of the city before visiting the basilica proper, which is dedicated to the author of the Confessions and The City of God, Bishop of Hippo, in the early 5th century. (B,L,D)

**Saturday, August 26**

**TUNIS, TUNISIA**

From Tunis, travel to storied Carthage, a Phoenician stronghold from the 9th century BC. The site includes several Phoenician remains, including Tophet, the sanctuary of the gods Tanit and Baal, as well as many monuments from the Roman period. Returning to Tunis, we explore the Bardo Museum, world-renowned for its spectacular collection of Roman mosaics, and enjoy time at leisure visiting the city’s medina and its souks. (B,L,D)

**Sunday, August 27**

**PALERMO, ITALY**

After breakfast aboard, disembark and transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)

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For reservations and information, please call Thalassa Journeys toll-free 866-633-3611.

Portugal’s attractive town of Silves is dominated by its castle

Rug Market, Tangier

Tangier’s traditional architecture

The Royal Alcazar of Seville
A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy in categories D to B at no additional charge. Additional single cabins are available at a supplement of 50% of the per person double occupancy rate, instead of the normal 70% supplement.

**SAVINGS FOR SOLO TRAVELERS**

All accommodations aboard *Diana* are spacious staterooms and balcony suites. They are elegantly decorated, face outside, affording sea views, and include a queen-size bed that can be arranged as two twin beds, a spacious bathroom, mini-refrigerator, safe, ample closet space, climate control, telephone, TV, Wi-Fi, and USB connections, as well as other amenities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>RATES PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>E</strong></td>
<td>Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401 – 404.</td>
<td>$9,990</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>D</strong></td>
<td>Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405 – 420.</td>
<td>$10,390</td>
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<td><strong>C</strong></td>
<td>Suites with balcony &amp; living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501 – 504, 538 – 541.</td>
<td>$11,990</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>B</strong></td>
<td>Suites with balcony &amp; living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505 – 518, 521 – 537.</td>
<td>$11,990</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>A</strong></td>
<td>Suites with balcony &amp; living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601 – 618, 621 – 635.</td>
<td>$12,590</td>
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<td><strong>AA</strong></td>
<td>Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom &amp; living room. 474 sq. ft. Decks 5 &amp; 6. Suites 519, 520, 619 &amp; 620.</td>
<td>$13,990</td>
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One night at our deluxe hotel in Lisbon.
Welcome dinner in Lisbon, and lunch on the day of embarkation.
Cruise aboard the Diana, as described in the itinerary.
Group airport/hotel/pier transfers at designated times, and handling of luggage.
Lectures and discussions with Professor Scott MacDonald, as well as lectures by Dartmouth’s Professor Dirk Vanderwalle and President Emeritus of the World Affairs Council, Jim Falk.
Additional lectures by members of the onboard team of experts.
Complete program of tours and excursions as mentioned in the itinerary including lunch on full day tours with professional English-speaking guides.
All meals aboard the ship, with a selection of wines, beer and soft drinks during lunch and dinner.
Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard the ship hosted by the captain.
Open bar with select alcoholic beverages.
Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea and soft drinks throughout the day and night.
24-hour room service.
Gratuities to the ship’s crew, guides, porters and drivers.
Basic Wi-Fi aboard the ship.
The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys Trip Director.
All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.

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Join Cornell Professor Scott MacDonald on a Voyage of Discovery to the Ancient Cities of North Africa and the Iberian Peninsula. Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship Diana, August 15-27, 2023

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Cathedral, Seville