



# ANDANTE

TRAVELS

ADVENTURES IN  
ARCHAEOLOGY

**SAVE** UP TO  
**\$770**pp\*

**\$0** SINGLE SUPPLEMENT  
PLACES AVAILABLE

**EARLY AUTUMN TOURS FROM ANDANTE TRAVELS**  
STILL TIME TO BOOK FOR 2024

# EARLY AUTUMN TOURS WITH ANDANTE TRAVELS

Welcome to our carefully curated selection of early Autumn tours.

The early months of autumn have traditionally been the favourite time of year for Andante guests to travel, and little wonder. By September, the summer crowds have melted away and the blazingly hot days (particularly in southern Europe) have given way to the most pleasant temperatures for exploring the myriad fascinating historical and archaeological sites that dot our continent and beyond.

In these pages you'll find six brand new tours, that will take you from ancient Ireland, Roman Portugal and Spain, and spectacular Italian mountains and cities, to wild Bulgaria and Turkey. We've also included many old favourites, as well as new departure dates for 2024 on our bestselling tours Pompeii, Herculaneum & Classical Campania, Macedonia and Wild Thrace.

We also have some special Autumn Saver discounts on selected tours departing in September 2024 for you of up to \$770 per person if you book by 30th June 2024.

Happy travels!

*The Andante Travels Team*

## Autumn Saver Offer

**SAVE UP TO \$770pp\***

Enjoy a saving of up to \$770 per person on selected tours departing in September 2024. Offer ends 30th June 2024.

### TERMS & CONDITIONS:

We reserve the right to withdraw special offers at any time and they are not valid for any bookings on private groups, travel agent bookings or Study Days. The saving of \$770pp is on our Peru - In Search of the Incas tour (p46).

## Get in touch with an expert

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

**212-986-3057**

**andantetravels.com**



## OFTEN IMITATED, NEVER MATCHED

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

## WHY CHOOSE ANDANTE TRAVELS?

- Keeping it small with a maximum group size of 18
- Insider knowledge garnered from nearly 40 years of touring
- Quality time on site – we don't cut corners
- 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
- Tour Managers as well as Guide Lecturers so they can focus on informing
- Calibre of our Guide Lecturers - highly sought after for their in-depth knowledge
- Carefully thought-out programmes that follow a theme
- Excellent value – inclusive of meals and wine at dinner, no passing around a hat for tips as these are all included
- 24hr practical assistance
- Individuality - we never treat you like a number, make you wear a badge or wave an umbrella at you



## With us, travel solo but not alone

Travel takes us out of our comfort zones and inspires us to see, taste and try new things. It constantly challenges us, not only to adapt to and explore new surroundings, but also to engage with different people, to embrace adventures as they come and to share new and meaningful experiences. It can be daunting when travelling alone but with Andante Travels, you are never alone unless you choose to be.

### HUNDREDS OF PLACES WITH \$0 SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

Over half of our guests travel solo and many of them tell us that single supplements across the travel industry, including ours, are sometimes too high. They feel disadvantaged for travelling alone. We listened, and we negotiated places on a selection of our tours in 2024 with no single supplement.

What's more, we offer double rooms (for sole use) as standard for our solo travellers so you will never be stuck in a room with just a single bed in a distant corner of a hotel. And our Tour Managers are experts in supporting solo travellers on the road. This is all part of our commitment to become the very best special interest travel company for solo guests.



### KNOWLEDGE YOU WON'T FIND ELSEWHERE

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



\$210 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



6 DAYS

From \$3,135pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Highlights of the Hebrides

*History and heritage on the edge of the Atlantic*

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

### Tour Highlights

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

### Day One | Lewis

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

### Day Two | Lewis

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

### Day Three | Harris

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

### Day Four | Lewis

The day begins with a visit to the **Blackhouses at Gearannan and Arnol**, typical crofting settlements found until recently in the Western

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

### Day Five | Lewis

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



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

### Day Six | Lewis - Stornoway - Ullapool

We return by ferry from Stornoway to Ullapool.



### Guided by Peter Yeoman

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
27th Sep- 2nd Oct	<del>\$3,345</del> \$3,135	\$490

**Includes \$210 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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

Image: The Standing Stones of Callanish and Stornoway

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

To book a tour today visit [andantetravels.com](http://andantetravels.com) or call 212-986-3057



BRAND NEW TOUR

\$140 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



4 DAYS

From \$1,925pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●●○

## Newgrange & Knowth

*Ireland's Ancient East*

Some archaeological sites so precious that they are strictly safeguarded and the opportunity to view them extremely hard to procure with tickets selling out many months in advance. The fabulous passage tombs at Brú na Bóinne, Newgrange and Knowth, are two such important monuments.

### Tour Highlights

- Access the complex of tumuli at Knowth and the impressive lone monument at Newgrange with its sparkling quartzite exterior
- Discover the Hill of the Witch, where we find Loughcrew one of the oldest prehistoric monuments in Ireland aligned to sunrise at each equinox
- Enjoy the fabulous collections at the National Museum of Ireland including the 4500 year old Lurgan logboat

### Day 1 | Dublin

Meet the group at Dublin airport or at our hotel near Drogheda.

### Day 2 | Loughcrew & Fourknocks

This morning we explore the passage grave cemetery at **Loughcrew**, also known as Slieve na Callighe (Hill of the Witch) where we see some of the oldest monuments in Ireland. Cairn T, one of the largest tombs in the complex is aligned to sunrise at the spring and autumn equinoxes and one of its kerbstones, known as the Hag's Chair, has been shaped and decorated with a cross, probably as a place for celebrating the Catholic Mass during the penal times. We continue to **Fourknocks**, where we see a fine example of a passage tomb, now preserved under a concrete dome with lighting apertures to show the unusual decoration to good effect. The remains of at least sixty individuals were found here and grave goods included stone and bone pendants and beads, as well as bone pins.

### Day 3 | Newgrange & Knowth

We visit **Newgrange** this morning, a monumental burial mound from the Neolithic period, pre-dating both Stonehenge and the Pyramids of Giza. A unique feature of the Newgrange passage is a stone box set in the roof which allows the rising sun to shine along the passage at the time of the winter solstice, and to hit the back of the rear chamber. This demonstrates not only the importance of astronomical events in the annual

Neolithic calendar, but also the engineering skills of the builders. From here, we visit the UNESCO-listed site of **Knowth**. This large mound overlies earlier Neolithic occupation and there are more than three hundred decorated stones in the main mound, the largest group of megalithic art in Europe. Common motifs are spirals and serpentine forms. Later, we visit the **Hill of Tara**, once the seat of the High Kings of Ireland. We wander the Iron Age hilltop enclosure and view the so-called **Stone of Destiny**.

### Day 4 | Dublin – Athgreaney

On our last day we travel south to view two Neolithic stone circles. **Broadleas** stands on a slightly elevated mound and measures over 30 metres in diameter. 27 stones remain but folklore has it that each time a person tries to count

them they will come to a different number. **Athgreaney** circle is of a similar size and also comes with its own legend. One of the seven sites in Ireland known as the Pipers Stones, these granite boulders are said to be the remains of a piper and his dancers, petrified in stone in violation of the Sabbath. We continue to Dublin where after lunch we will visit the **National Museum of Ireland** in Dublin for its superb overview of Irish archaeology. Highlights include an impressive range of Bronze Age gold and metalwork, the 4,500 year old Lurgan logboat, carved from a giant oak trunk and measuring over 14 metres and the perfectly preserved human remains found in Ireland's boglands during the Iron Age. In the late afternoon we say farewell to Ireland and make our independent onwards journeys.



### 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 and Gozo.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	Sgl Supp.
5th – 8th Sep	\$2,065	\$1,925 \$195

Includes \$140 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

\$630 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



9 DAYS

From \$8,180pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Cruising the Extraordinary Island of Corsica

*From the Neolithic Period to the Romans*

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 and examine Aleria

### Day One | Nice

Arrive independently in the city of **Nice**. In the late afternoon, time permitting, we have an orientation walk around the city.

### Day Two | Nice

We start today with a visit to the ancient Roman site of **Cemelenum** founded by Augustus in order to protect the Via Julia. Here, in modern Cimiez, we visit the **archaeological museum** before examining the remains of the **Roman baths and amphitheatre**. We end the morning with a visit to the cathedral in Cimiez and the neighbouring cemetery where the artists Matisse and Dufy are buried. After lunch, we go to the **Terra Amata Archaeological Site**, one of the most important Lower Palaeolithic sites in Europe. In the late afternoon, we drive to the port of Nice where we board our ship, the MS Belle des Océans.

### Day Three | Ajaccio

We spend the morning cruising across the Ligurian sea to Corsica and have an informal lecture on the long and varied history of the island. In the afternoon, we dock in Ajaccio.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** In the afternoon, we make our way to the **Fesch Museum**, begun in 1827 by Napoleon's maternal uncle, who had ambitions of establishing an Institute of Arts and Sciences in his home city. He donated a stunning collection of paintings to the museum, including works from the Italian Renaissance, notably paintings by Botticelli, Bellini, and Titian.

### 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:** This morning we drive to the most extraordinary of Corsica's archaeological sites, **Filitosa**, which is dramatically set in an ancient olive grove. Filitosa was settled in the Neolithic period, though is famed for its spectacular Bronze Age menhirs which have human features and weapons carved on them.

### Day Five | Bonifacio

Today we find ourselves in the lovely city of Bonifacio. The city is dominated by its citadel whose 9th century foundations have been covered over by years of history. In the afternoon we will have a chance to enjoy its charms, visiting the citadel before we set sail in the evening for Porto Vecchio.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** We travel this morning to the stunning archaeological site of **Cucuruzzo**, an off-the-beaten track site which encompasses a Bronze Age fortified village dating to the 12th century BC. A short distance away, we visit **Capula**, which was inhabited until the medieval period, and which wonderfully preserves a Bronze Age fortress, giving us a precious glimpse of Corsica before the period of Genoese domination.

### Day Six | Porto Vecchio

Having sailed through the night, today the ship is

docked in Porto Vecchio. In the afternoon, we sail to Bastia.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** After breakfast, we drive to the little-known archaeological site of **Ceccia**, located a short distance from Porto Vecchio. We then travel to the nearby archaeological site of **Tappa**, inhabited from the 4th millennium BC and abandoned in the mid-2nd millennium, in the middle Bronze Age.

### Day Seven | Bastia

This morning we find ourselves docked in Bastia. In the afternoon we travel to the Terra Nova citadel, with an optional visit to the **Museum of Bastia**. Tonight, we sail to L'Île Rousse.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** After breakfast on board our ship, we drive along the Eastern Coast of Corsica and visit the Roman site of **Aleria**. Near the site, we visit the **Jérôme Carcopino Museum**.

### Day Eight | L'Île Rousse

On our last morning in Corsica, we land at **L'Île Rousse**. We drive a short distance to **Calvi**, where our visit centres around the evocative 13th century fortress with its historic, cobbled streets, dominated by the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist. In the afternoon, we sail to Nice.

### Day Nine | Nice

Time permitting, we will continue our exploration of Nice before making our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, hotel and ship accommodation, and meals
- 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
- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- An excursion to Calvi and its citadel with Croisi Europe, shared with other passengers
- Field notes and local guide services as required

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

### Dates & prices per person

	5th - 13th Sep	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
Horizon Deck 4	<del>\$8,810</del>	\$8,180	\$2,170
Horizon Deck 5	<del>\$9,465</del>	\$8,835	\$2,445
Panorama Suites	<del>\$10,295</del>	\$9,665	\$5,355

**Includes \$630 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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



\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



7 DAYS

From \$4,915pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Brittany - Carnac & Beyond

*Encounter the world's largest assemblage of megalithic sites*

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

*"I absolutely loved every minute of it. We were able to see such a lot of the prehistoric sites of the Carnac area, and were treated to some wonderful French cuisine. A wonderful week."*

Guest, September 2023

### Day One | Carnac

Meet the group at our hotel in Carnac.

### Day Two | Locmariaquer - Table des Marchands

A morning in and around the fishing village of **Locmariaquer** awaits us. Monuments in the area include the **Mané-Lud Carnac** mound, a large and prominent passage tomb with a central burial at the entrance to the village, the passage-tomb of **Mané Rutuel** and the fallen stone known as the **Grand Menhir Brisé**. When intact, the latter stone was over 20 metres high and weighed an incredible 280 tonnes. We end the day at the **Table des Marchands**, a passage grave with an exceptionally high burial chamber, capped with a huge, partly decorated stone.

### Day Three | Gavrinis - Carnac

We travel by boat to the island of **Gavrinis** in the Gulf of Morbihan, where we visit a large and important passage grave that was constructed around 3500. The stones of the passage and capstone of the tomb are decorated with symbolic and abstract designs in a virtuoso display of prehistoric art. In the distance, we see the stone circle of **Er-Lannic** on its islet before we return to

Lamor Baden. One circle marches into the sea and the second has long since vanished beneath the waves. We continue to **Carnac Prehistory Museum**, the richest in the world for Megalithic culture and founded by the Scottish antiquary James Milns, who was the first (and last) to excavate extensively at Carnac. This museum contains a wonderful array of artefacts, including Alpine jade axes, some of the best-preserved jewellery and exquisitely knapped arrowheads.

### Day Four | Plouharnel - Erdeven - Quiberon

We visit various sites between Plouharnel and Erdeven, including **Mané-Kerioned**, a group of three dolmens, the impressive dolmen at Crucuno that is partly incorporated into a farmhouse, and also the passage graves of **Mané-Groh** and **Rondosse**. Later on, we visit the Quiberon Peninsula, where we visit the **Port Blanc Dolmens**, a set of 2 passage tombs where the bodies of around 50 people were preserved by the sandy



Images top to bottom: Table des Marchands & Island of Gavrinis

environment. Lastly, we stop at the **Kerbougnec Alignment**, on the eastern side of the peninsula. Here the stones can be seen at low tide stretching out into the sea.

### Day Five | Carnac - Geant du Manio

Today is spent exploring the megalithic sites of **Carnac**. The fantastic rows of stones, over 3,000 of them, run for over three kilometres across the Breton countryside. They are accompanied by tombs in the form of tumuli and dolmens (eroded stone-built tombs with capstones). There are four groups of alignments, three of which may once have formed a single conglomeration. We visit the rows at **Le Menec** and view the alignments of **Kermario**. After lunch, we explore the passage grave at **Kercado** and visit the menhir known as **Le Géant du Manio**. Along a forest trail, we find this giant in a clearing, standing over six metres high.

### Day Six | Le Rocher - Petit Mont Cairn

We delve into the **Le Rocher** passage tomb and then we explore the **Arzon peninsula**, on the south side of the Gulf of Morbihan, where we visit the **Petit Mont Cairn**. This extraordinary cairn has been much reconstructed, but is still a very impressive construction of about 4600 BC, with several phases of burial chambers.

### Day Seven | Carnac

Our tour comes to an end today as we make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Dr Nick Thorpe

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
9th - 15th Sep	\$5,265	\$4,915 \$775

Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

BRAND NEW TOUR

\$280 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



10 DAYS

From \$5,918pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Roman Lusitania

*The Romans in Portugal and Spain*

Rome first ventured into the Iberian Peninsula in 218 BCE, campaigning against Hannibal and the Carthaginians. By the time of the Emperor Augustus, 200 years later, all of Spain and what was later to become Portugal, was in Roman hands. The province of Lusitania included much of Portugal and western Spain, and its capital, Mérida, is one of the best-preserved Roman cities in Europe,

### Tour Highlights

- Discover superb Roman monuments and extraordinary feats of engineering at the Proserpina Dam and Aqueduct Los Milagros
- Enjoy beautiful landscapes from the coast at Lisbon to the Spanish Extremadura and the heart of old Spain
- Explore Mérida, Evora and the lovely town of Cáceres, a gem of a perfectly preserved medieval town

### Day One | Lisbon

We meet at our hotel in Lisbon.

### Day Two | Conimbriga

We drive north through the bucolic landscapes of central Portugal to **Conimbriga**, one of the Iberian Peninsula's most important archaeological sites. This extensive site contains the remains of a forum, shops, aqueduct, baths and private homes of various impressive dimensions. We also take time to study the impressive defensive wall from the late antique period.

### Day Three | Tróia & Alcacer do Sal

This morning we take the ferry from Setubal to the Tróia peninsula. Here we find the ancient site of **Tróia** and the largest garum production centre known from the Roman world. There are some 52 factories here, accommodating around 3,000 tanks in which the layers of salt and fish rotted to produce the ubiquitous sauces of the ancient world. In the afternoon we visit **Alcácer do sal** on the banks of the Sado River where we explore the **Archaeological Museum** housed in the castle's old crypt.

### Day Four | Lisbon - Evora

Before we leave the city, we take a look at its Roman remains including the **Roman theatre** originally constructed by Emperor Augustus in 10 BCE and later expanded in 57AD to a capacity of 5,000 spectators. The on-site museum beautifully recreates the theatre and displays finds from

excavations there. Next, we will visit the small archaeological museum at the sacristy of the **Convento do Carmo**.

### Day Five | Evora & Sao Cucufate

In the morning we explore **Evora**, a former Roman town, and now a World Heritage Site. It still has Roman remains which we will visit as well as the **Archaeological Museum** in the centre of town. In the afternoon we leave the city and drive to **Sao Cucufate** a palatial Roman villa which began as a primitive residence in the 1st century AD but expanded to the 4th century structure we see today.

### Day Six | Evora - Badajoz - Mérida

We drive to the border town of **Badajoz**. The town retains a finely preserved Moorish Alcazaba, dating from the 12th century and we will visit the **Archaeological Museum** which is housed here with its major collection of warrior stelae and various artefacts from sites around the province. We continue to Mérida but before we enter the city we will stop at the impressive **Roman Aqueduct at Milagros**, a masterpiece of Roman engineering.

### Day Seven | Mérida

The day is dedicated to **Mérida**, a simple Spanish provincial town still dominated by the remains of its Roman past. Founded as a Roman colonia in 26 or 25 BCE it later became the capital of Lusitania. Its importance continued throughout the Roman period and beyond, being a major town of the

Visigoths and the Moors. The Roman remains are outstanding.

### Day Eight | Cáceres & La Proserpina

**Cáceres** is off the beaten track for most tourists but this UNESCO listed, walled medieval city is a delight. The town is a fusion of Roman, Moorish, Gothic and Renaissance architecture. We will visit some of the many fine churches and view the old town walls as well as the museum in the centre of the medieval town. It is undergoing renovation, but the archaeological section is still on display and includes a good collection of pre-Roman, Roman and Visigothic artifacts. Later we will visit the Roman dam of **La Proserpina**.

### Day Nine | Mérida & Medellín

This morning, we further our exploration of Mérida with a visit to the exceptional **National Museum of Roman Art**. In the afternoon we visit the castle at **Medellín**, the birthplace of Conquistador and conqueror of the Aztecs, Hernan Cortés. The town is Roman in origin and although most of the remains have been covered by the modern town, some Roman stonework survives in the town walls and part of the Roman theatre .

### Day Ten | Mérida - Elvas - Lisbon

We drive to Lisbon via the fortress of town of Elvas for our independent onward travel.



### Guided by Dr Andy Fear

Andy is a Lecturer in Classics at the University of Manchester. He is primarily interested in Roman history and has authored books on the archaeology of both Cheshire and Staffordshire.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
1st - 10th Sep	<del>\$6,198</del>	\$5,918

Includes \$280 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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



\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From \$4,580pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Rock Art of Altamira

*A close encounter with our Stone Age antecedents*

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

### Tour Highlights

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

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

Guest, June 2023

### Day One | Bilbao

We meet at our hotel in Bilbao this morning. This afternoon we will visit the facsimile of **Ekain**, the painted cave discovered in 1969, home to some of the most realistic colourful depictions of horse and bison.

### Day Two | Ekainberri - Bilbao

This morning, we drive south to **Atapuerca**, one of the most important paleontological sites in Europe. We shall visit the Museum de Human Evolution in Burgos before visiting the site. After lunch we return to Bilbao where we enjoy the fabulous art at the collections at the **Guggenheim Museum**.

### Day Three | Covalanas - El Pendo

We make our way to the **Santimamiñe Cave** site situated on the bank of the River Urdaibai. We visit the 3D replica, close to the original cave site to see the representations of prehistoric fauna, visit the Hermitage of San Mames now converted into an Interpretation Centre and enjoy the natural environment before heading west to Santillana Del Mar. We arrive in this charming medieval town in the late afternoon.

### Day Four | Altamira - El Pindal

The superb facsimile of **Altamira** is as remarkable as the original cave site now closed to preserve its fragile artwork. Most famous for its magnificent, decorated ceiling of bison, the various galleries also contain many engravings and finger tracings. In the afternoon we visit the **Cueva de Sopeña** shelter used by hunter-gatherers where we shall see the interpretation centre and replica galleries representing goats & possibly deer.

### Day Five | Las Monedas - El Castillo

We start with a visit to the Prehistory Museum at **Santander**. Conserved here are all the artefacts and remains recovered by archaeological excavations



Images top to bottom: Guggenheim Bilbao & Santillana del Mar

in the region and it's a must see for anyone interested in prehistory. This afternoon we explore **Las Monedas**, a large, labyrinthine cave in which bear bones were also found. The art at our second visit – the cave of **El Castillo** – clearly belongs to a number of different phases and recently produced some of the earliest dates for cave art in the world – more than 40,000 years. There are hundreds of animal figures and 50 red hand stencils to be observed here.

### Day Six | La Loja - Tito Bustillo

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

### Day Seven | Candamo - Teverga

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

### Day Eight | Bilbao

We make our independent onward journeys.

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



### Guided by Dr Rob Dinnis

An expert on the Palaeolithic and archaeology of the last Ice Age, Rob has published on human dispersals, Palaeolithic material culture and Ice Age environments in which people lived.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
2nd - 9th Sep	<del>\$4,930</del> \$4,580	\$835

**Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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

\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From \$5,610pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Moorish Wonders of the Guadalquivir & Guadiana

*Exploring Andalusia and the Algarve on a cruise*

Called the Baetis in the Roman period, the Guadalquivir is the most important river in Spain, not just because it is the country's only navigable river but because it flows through Andalusia, the heartbeat of Iberian history. The Guadiana, in turn, meets the Guadalquivir at the Gulf of Cadiz.

### Tour Highlights

- Admire the Alhambra dubbed by Arabic poets 'the pearl set in emeralds' and unique example of Moorish architecture transformed into a Renaissance palace in the 16th century
- Explore Italica, the oldest Roman city outside of Italy, and home to stunningly preserved remains unencumbered by later periods
- Examine the historic remains of Cádiz, including its extraordinary Phoenician and Roman remains

### Day One | Seville

On arrival in to Seville and, time permitting, visit the **Metropol Parasol** in the city. Afterwards we join our ship, the MS La Belle de Cadix, in Seville.

### Day Two | Seville

We wake up in Seville, the capital of Andalusia.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** Today we venture to Cordoba where we begin our exploration with the **Medina Azahara**, the 10th century palace-city built in order to administer the capital. We continue to the city's **Jewish Quarter** where we see vestiges of the multi-cultural medieval city. We end our visit of Cordoba with the world famous **Mezquita**, or Cathedral Mosque, erected in the 8th century.

### Day Three | Seville - Isla Mínima

Today our ship is moored in the vibrant city of Seville. Later we depart for Isla Mínima where we have a tour of an Andalusian hacienda before we sail to Cádiz.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** Today we visit two of Seville's UNESCO listed sites, starting with the **Real Alcázar**, built in the 14th century, an important example of mudejar architecture, which is blending of Moorish and Europe styles. We continue a short distance to the **Cathedral of Saint Mary of the See**, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world built in order to signal the city's increased importance after the reconquista.

### Day Four | Cádiz

This morning we are in Cádiz which retains an old quarter which bears the remains of its ancient past.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** Founded by Phoenicians in the 9th century BC, we start our day in Cádiz at the **archaeological museum**, which contains an important collection of artefacts before proceeding to the **Roman theatre**, built in the 1st century BC and once one of the largest theatres in the empire. We end the morning with a visit to the **cathedral** built in the city's heyday when the city was enriched by the Transatlantic trade. After lunch, we visit the archaeological site which contains the remains of the Phoenician settlement of **Gadir**.

### Day Five | Alcoutim - Huelva

Today we join the Guadiana which meets the Guadalquivir in Cadiz, and sail to Alcoutim, located in the Algarve, near the border, mid-morning. We sail the rest of the afternoon towards Huelva where we arrive in the evening.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** This morning we visit the 13th century **Moorish castle at Alcoutim**, an important site from the Neolithic period onwards. The current castle belongs to the period of the reconquista when the Portuguese crown undertook defensive measures to stamp their authority over lands they gained.

### Day Six | Huelva - El Puerto de Santa Maria - Seville

We awake in the Huelva, where we spend the morning before sailing in the afternoon towards

El Puerto de Santa Maria in the province of Cadiz. In the evening we re-join the Guadalquivir and sail back to Seville.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** Huelva was an important Phoenician trading post, exchanging precious metals and fish with cities throughout the Mediterranean. This morning we explore this city's important past at the important **Huelva Archaeological Museum**. After our excursion in the morning, we enjoy an evening wine tasting in the area of El Puerto de Santa Maria with other cruise passengers.

### Day Seven | Granada

Having sailed through the night, we return to Seville to visit Granada. In the morning we visit the incomparable **Alhambra**, first built as a fortress in the 9th century and turned into a palace fortress in the 14th century by the Emir of Granada.

**Exclusive Andante excursion:** After lunch, we explore the **Archaeological Museum of Granada**, which sheds light on the city itself as well as on Andalusian history.

### Day Eight | Seville

After disembarking the ship, we end our tour by visiting one of the most important Roman sites in Spain, **Italica**. The ancient city, founded in the 3rd century BC, is one of the best preserved in Spain. In the afternoon, we make our independent onward journeys.



### 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.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

- Local transport, ship accommodation, and meals
- MS La Belle de Cadix: welcome cocktail and all on board drinks\*, served in the restaurant and in the bar to include tea, coffee, soft drinks, beers and a selection of wines, cocktails and long drinks.

*\*Premium branded drinks at own cost*

- All taxes & gratuities

### Your archaeological experience

- Expert Guide Lecturer & Professional Tour Manager
- Entries to all sites as per the itinerary
- A wine-tasting experience and an excursion to the Alhambra with Croisi Europe, shared with other passengers
- Field notes and local guide services as required

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

### Dates & prices per person

5th - 12th Sep	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
Upper Deck Outside Cabin with a large floor to ceiling window	<del>\$5,960</del> \$5,610	\$965

**Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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



\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From \$5,005pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## The Etruscans

*Master craftsmen of early Italy*

Before the rise of Rome, the Etruscans dominated much of central Italy. Their cities today are either abandoned or lost beneath the area's iconic medieval and renaissance towns, but traces of their existence remains. Discover hilltop settlements, spectacular finds, lavish painted tombs and even veritable cities of the dead on this alternative tour of Classical Italy.

### Tour Highlights

- See the remarkable Banditaccia cemetery at Cerveteri, a real city of the dead
- View the unique painted tombs of Tarquinia, the earliest fresco cycle in western art
- Explore the dramatic medieval city of Orvieto and visit its great cathedral
- Admire incomparable collections of Etruscan artefacts in Rome's Villa Giulia

### Day One | Colle di Val d'Elsa

Meet the group at our hotel.

### Day Two | Volterra

We spend our first day in **Volterra** located on windswept, dramatic hills. Here we visit the **Guarnacci Museum**, famed for its cinerary urns carved from the local alabaster. After lunch, we walk through the town viewing Etruscan temple foundations, the ancient city gate, the **Porta all'Arco** and a well-preserved Roman theatre.

### Day Three | Florence

This morning we drive to Florence to visit its **Archaeological Museum**. The afternoon is free for us to explore at leisure.

### Day Four | Chiusi

We spend the day at **Chiusi**, the key inland city of northern Etruria. The collections in the excellent museum are drawn from the area, and include finely carved cinerary chests and tomb markers in local sandstone. From here we will make the short drive to Sarteano where, after lunch, we have arranged a special visit to the **Tomba della Quadriga Infernale**. The tomb was a rare find in 2003 and is decorated with an extraordinary pictorial cycle in excellent condition. We will also have a chance to explore the archaeological museum. Here we will see numerous artefacts from the area dating from the 9th century to the 1st century BCE including splendid human-shaped canopic jars.

### Day Five | Rome

We spend the morning visiting the remarkable **Banditaccia cemetery at Cerveteri**, a truly extraordinary Etruscan site famed for its necropolis. This is a real 'city of the dead' with rock-cut tombs under tumuli or arranged in rows along streets. Many interiors are carved to imitate houses and temples. One tomb even has painted relief depictions of armour, household goods, furniture, and the family dog. This afternoon, we drive east to visit the **Villa Giulia Museum** in Rome, which houses one of the world's best collections of Etruscan art and artefacts including the masterpiece Apollo of Veii from Portonaccio Temple.

### Day Six | Tarquinia

We visit **Tarquinia** to see the **Archaeological Museum** and exquisitely painted subterranean



Images top to bottom: Volterra & Banditaccia

chamber tombs. The museum has a fine collection of grave goods, including the remarkable terracotta winged horses from the Ara della Regina Temple. Over 6,000 tombs have been discovered at the **Monterozzi cemetery**, which we visit next, making this one of the largest burial grounds of the ancient world. We see a selection, with depictions of banquets and funerary games.

### Day Seven | Orvieto

Today we have an opportunity to explore **Orvieto**, or ancient Velzna, which the Etruscans presumably established because of the excellent defensive opportunities offered by the spectacular volcanic citadel. You will have free time to explore in the town including two archaeological museums, 'underground Orvieto', and the magnificent Renaissance cathedral. In the afternoon we visit the **Belvedere Temple Podium**, and the small Etruscan cemetery of **Crocifisso del Tufo**, where family names are carved above the entrance to each tomb.

### Day Eight | Sutri

Before we part company, we will visit the **Archaeological Park of Sutri**, one of the southernmost Etruscan cities and Rome's first colony. The amphitheatre, cut out of the rock in the Etruscan style, is the perhaps the earliest in Italy. We will also visit part of the necropolis, where one of the tombs were converted first into a Mithraeum and then into a church.



### Guided by Prof. Tony King

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Dbl Share	Sgl Supp.
23rd - 30th Sep	<del>\$5,355</del>	\$5,005 \$945

Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

**\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT**



7 DAYS

From \$4,085pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## The Samnites

*War and peace in the ancient Apennines*

The Samnite Wars were fundamental for establishing Rome's control over the Italian peninsula. Set amongst spectacular mountains, ancient cities, castles and abbeys, this tour reaches to the heart of Italy and considers early Italians who were so important for maintaining the might of Rome.

### Tour Highlights

- Visit the theatre and sanctuary at Pietrabbondante, the Samnite religious and political centre in the mountains of Molise
- Explore the ancient site of Saepinum with an impressive theatre, which was developed to pasture flocks sent to Rome, something still done to this day
- Admire the massive abbey at San Vincenzo al Volturno, established by Charlemagne
- Examine the stunning UNESCO-listed Carolingian Oratory of San Pellegrino with its priceless frescoes

### Day One | Rome - Venafro

We meet in Rome and travel to the ancient site of **Venafro** on the River Volturno, famous for its olive groves. We explore the remains of its amphitheatre, which once held 15,000 spectators but was later reused as stables and storage for agricultural equipment.

### Day Two | Venafro - Castelpetroso

The day starts with a visit to the **Santa Chiara National Archaeological Museum**, which houses finds from Venafro, as well as other important sites. We proceed to the **Pandone Castle**, originally built in the 10th century on the remains of earlier fortifications and redecorated in the Renaissance. We proceed along the River Volturno, where, at the headwaters of the river, we visit **San Vincenzo al Volturno**. Here we explore the excavations, partly conducted by your Guide Lecturer, which have revealed the great 9th century Carolingian Abbey and its painted crypt. This was a major centre of culture in the Medieval period.

### Day Three | Isernia & Saepinum

This morning we explore **Isernia**, which was a strategic Samnite city that dominated the roads across Italy. Our first visit is to the **National Museum of the Palaeolithic**, which displays the amazing Palaeolithic finds from the area; we continue to the excavations under the **Cathedral** and the **Civic Museum of the Memory and History**. We drive onwards to **Saepinum** where a market town was established to control the

movement of flocks from the grasslands of Apulia north to Rome.

### Day Four | Pietrabbondate & Schiavi di Abruzzo

We drive to **Agnone** famed for its bronze casting tradition and the location of a Papal bell foundry. The Oscan table, found here in the 19th century, is the most important inscription in the region and gives us priceless information about Oscan, the language spoken by Samnites. We move onto **Pietrabbondante** where we explore the excavated remains of the ritual sanctuary of the Pentri tribe. Used for major religious events, the huge temple and theatre were the seat of discussions regarding peace and war. In the afternoon we drive to **Schiavi di Abruzzo** where we see another mountain sanctuary which boasts two well-preserved and reconstructed temples.



Images top to bottom: Isernia & San Vincenzo al Volturno

### Day Five | Castelpetroso - Silvi Marina

Today we venture into the Abruzzi mountains to **Iuvanum**, a market town established for the ancient shepherds of the uplands. We proceed across the Sangro River to the **Rocca Scalegna**, where we visit the Angevin castle, which was built during its conflict with the Aragonese. Afterwards, we head to **Chieti** to visit the **National Museum Villa Frigerj** whose highlights include the extraordinary Capestrano Warrior, and an inscription found in Penna Sant'Andrea which is written in Paleosabellic, an ancient Italian language.

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

The days starts in the wide valley of **Sulmona** where we visit the sanctuary of **Hercules Curino**, one of the most important ancient shrines of Abruzzo. We proceed to the UNESCO-listed Oratory of San Pellegrino in **Bominaco**, a Benedictine Carolingian chapel that preserves priceless frescoes, as well as the Romanesque church of **Santa Maria Assunta**. After lunch we visit **Fossa**, where a unique Samnite tumulus cemetery is criss-crossed with rows of standing stones.

### Day Seven | L'Aquila - Aminternum

On our last day, we pay a quick visit to **L'Aquila**, a substantial Roman city whose remains include a theatre and amphitheatre. After lunch we proceed to Rome for our independent onward journeys.



**Guided by Oliver Gilkes**

Oliver has worked as a field and museum archaeologist in the UK, Albania and Italy.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
23rd - 29th Sep	<del>\$4,435</del>	\$4,085 \$260

**Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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



NEW DEPARTURE DATE FOR 2024

\$210 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

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

8 DAYS

From \$4,070pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●○○○

# Pompeii, Herculaneum & Classical Campania

*Exclusive access to the off-site theatre of Herculaneum*

Nowhere in the world gives deeper insight into Roman life than the dramatic seaside towns of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Before the cataclysmic eruption of Vesuvius these were thriving, lively seaside towns. Walk with us as the Romans did, from amphitheatre to baths to forum, as our Guide Lecturer conjures an evocative picture of the everyday life of these prosperous Roman towns.

### Tour Highlights

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

### Day One | Naples - Cava de' Tirreni

Today we travel to our hotel in Cava de' Tirreni.

### Day Two | Cava de' Tirreni - Paestum

Our day begins with a visit to the fascinating site at **Paestum**, ancient Poseidonia. Long before the Romans came, this was a thriving Greek city that was part of greater Greece from the 6th century BC. After lunch, we visit the **Paestum Museum**, famed for its archaic metopes and its painted tombs. We will also be able to visit the magnificent **Store Rooms** of Paestum.

### Day Three | Pompeii

We devote the entire day to **Pompeii**. No other site compares in revealing details of daily life in a Roman town. We visit some of the most well-preserved buildings as well as an amphitheatre, theatre, forum, bath-houses, bars and even brothels. Fountains in the street are worn from where countless people rested their hands to take a drink and Roman graffiti can still be seen on the walls. Travelling via the best routes to avoid the crowds, we visit some houses that are newly reopened to the public.

### Day Four | Naples - Pozzuoli

Our first visit of the day is to the fabulous **National Archaeological Museum** in Naples, home to exceptional collections of artefacts. After lunch, we move on to **Pozzuoli** and visit one of the world's most impressive amphitheatres. Later, we are granted private access to the **Cave of Sejanus**, an impressive tunnel dating to the age of Augustus,

which gives access to the lovely seaside villa of **Pausilypon**. During our visit here, we can see a theatre and odeon, built at a later date.

### Day Five | Stabiae

Go off the beaten track today to the villas of **Stabiae**, an exclusive Roman resort for the very wealthy. The vast **Villa San Marco**, with its swimming pool and bath complex, is one of the most opulent along this coast and it remains very impressive in its scale. Subject to renovations being completed, we hope to visit the **Villa Arianna**, with its wonderful frescoes and fabulous views over the Bay of Naples. After lunch we visit the **Archaeological Museum of Castellammare di Stabia Libero D'Orsi** which opened specifically for the exhibition of the many important items found in the region of Stabia. There are a large



Images top to bottom: Pozzuoli & artefacts on display at Paestum Museum

number of finds on display, some never before exhibited in Italy.

### Day Six | Herculaneum

This morning we travel to **Villa Sora in Torre del Greco**, where we have special access to a fine residence once thought to be owned by a member of the Julio Claudian Family. Later, we head to **Herculaneum**, which perfectly complements a visit to Pompeii. 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. In addition to the site, we explore the Antiquarium, newly opened after 44 years, and which houses precious articles found along Herculaneum's sea front.

### Day Seven | Vesuvius - Oplontis

Today, we ascend to the great volcanic crater of **Vesuvius**. The majority of our journey will be by bus, but the final part requires a short walk. After the ascent and peering into the crater being forged since the ancient eruption, you will see fumaroles and the layers of previous eruptions, while walking around the perimeter of the crater affords magnificent views over the Bay of Naples. 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

After breakfast, our tour ends.



### Guided by John Shepherd

A specialist in the study of ancient glass, John has worked extensively in the field in Europe as an archaeologist, including France, Italy and Bulgaria.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
23rd - 30th Sep	<del>\$4,280</del> \$4,070	<del>\$370</del> \$0

**Includes \$210 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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

\$210 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



9 DAYS

From \$5,895pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●●○

## Puglia & Basilicata

Discover the extraordinary Sassi di Matera

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 | Puglia - Lecce

We meet at our hotel in 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. When Lecce became part of the Kingdom of Naples, it took on a new cultural identity, becoming the 'Apulian Athens'. Between the 16th and 18th centuries, this fostered the development of the 'Lecce Baroque' style, characterised by exuberant carving. We proceed to an off-the-beaten-track private visit to the **Roca Vecchia Archaeological Park**. We then visit the beautiful seaside city of **Otranto**, which was violently besieged by the Ottomans in 1480. Here, we visit the **cathedral** and the Byzantine **Church of San Pietro**.

### Day Three | Egnatia - Alberobello

Today we drive to the ancient site of **Egnatia**, a Messapian city that was also a strategic trading centre in the Roman period. We move on to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of **Alberobello** before enjoying some free time to explore this city with its unique architecture at our own pace.

### Day Four | Matera

We spend all day in **Matera**, the European Capital of Culture for 2019. Carlo Levi, author of *Christ Stopped at Eboli*, gave a heartbreaking account of the desperate poverty he witnessed during his

years of exile in Matera in the 1940s. We begin with an exploration of the extraordinary **Sassi di Matera**, a network of rock-cut cave dwellings and frescoed Byzantine churches. In the afternoon we have some free time for independent wandering.

### 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. From here we continue to **Taranto** and explore the outstanding **National Archaeological Museum**, one of the most important in all of Italy.



Images top to bottom: Alberobello & Taranto

### 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 visiting the castle itself, we will also explore the **National Archaeological Museum** housed within it.

### Day Seven | Castel del Monte - Trani

We start with a visit to **Castel del Monte** to see the spectacular 13th century hunting lodge of the Emperor Frederick II. We spend the afternoon in **Trani**, where we visit the exquisite **cathedral** that is located on the seafront. Afterwards, there will be free time to explore at our leisure.

### 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**. During our visit here, we find a priceless Bronze Age statuette and the Roman sarcophagus of Rapolla.

### Day Nine | Trani - Puglia

After breakfast we transfer to the airport to make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Dr Eireann Marshall

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
24th Sep - 2nd Oct	<del>\$6,105</del>	\$5,895 \$580

Includes \$210 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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



\$280 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



9 DAYS

From \$6,235pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●●○

## The Island of Sardinia

*Neolithic, Nuragic and Punic mysteries of this Mediterranean island*

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

### Tour Highlights

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

### Day One | Alghero

Meet the group in the Catalan city of Alghero.

### Day Two | Monte d'Accoddi & Palmavera

This morning we make our way to one of the oldest and most interesting sites in our tour, the pyramid complex at **Monte d'Accoddi**, which was built over two millennia by people who predated the Nuragic culture. After lunch, we explore **Palmavera**, the first of our Nuragic sites built by a culture which thrived in the Bronze and Iron Ages. Here at **Palmavera**, we see several intertwined nuraghi, truncated towers with vaulted interiors.

### Day Three | Alghero - Su Gologone

We head east towards Oliena, stopping during the morning at **Santu Antine**, a complex of nuraghi built from the 19th to 15th centuries BC. We proceed off the beaten track to **Romanzesu-Poddi Arvu**, another Bronze Age Nuragic site which is notable for its hundred-odd huts and public structures and includes a mysterious labyrinthine edifice and temples. For our last site of the day, we explore the little-known **National Archaeological Museum Giorgio Asprone** in Nuoro, where we look at artefacts dating from the Paleolithic to Roman periods.

### Day Four | Su Gologone

Today we venture off the beaten track in 4x4s to visit breathtaking sites which shed insights into the extraordinary Sardinian Bronze Age. We start with the monumental **Giants' graves of S'Ena e Thomes**, a funerary site comprising a dolmen and a

funeral hall made of enormous slabs of such scale that it was believed to be superhuman by later Sardinians. Proceeding to **Su Tempiesu**, we examine a late Bronze Age/Iron Age shrine to a sacred spring constructed with impeccable ashlar masonry and whose structure has an extraordinary double sloped roof. For our final site, we venture to Middle Bronze settlement of **Sa Sedda 'e Sos Carros** where we see well preserved stone huts.

### Day Five | Su Gologone - Oristano

This morning we travel west to the 4th millennium necropolis at **Sas Concas** where we see a cluster of twenty *Domus de janas*, or "fairies' houses" - tombs carved out of the rock to resemble their houses, affording us glimpses into everyday life in pre-Nuragic Sardinia. We proceed to the Bronze Age Nuragic complex of **Tamuli**, an important archaeological site which comprises a nuraghe, as well as a group of huts and a necropolis which has six mysterious betyls, sacred stones which were seen to be imbue with life. We end the day at another tantalizing religious site, the sacred well at **Santa Cristina**, which is very well preserved with staggeringly precise ashlar masonry walls leading to a subterranean chamber with a corbelled roof which contained water.

### Day Six | Oristano - Baia di Nora

We make our way south to **Tharros**, where we explore the Tophet and consider whether Phoenicians these necropoleis only included children's burials because children were seen

differently, or whether children were sacrificed. We next visit the **Civic Archaeological Museum "Giovanni Marongiu" of Cabras**, where we see artefacts from Tharros. We also visit the highest Bronze Age structure in the Mediterranean at the Nuragic site of Su Nuraxi at Barumini. We end the day with a visit to the **National Archaeological Museum of Cagliari** to further explore the Phoenicians and their skilful goldsmithing; here we also see the Nora Stone, an 8th century inscription which may be referring to a Phoenician victory against Sardinians.

### Day Seven | Nora

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

### Day Eight | Sulcis & Sant'Antioco

Our final full day is dedicated to Phoenician sites near Nora, starting with the ancient necropolis at **Monte Sirai**, then the Phoenician/Roman site of Sulky or Sulcis on the beautiful island of **Sant'Antioco**. We close the day with a visit to the **Ferruccio Barreca Archaeological Museum** which sheds light on this important site, including its delicate jewellery and pottery.

### Day Nine | Nora - Cagliari

Our tour ends and make our onward journeys.



### Guided by Dr Tertia Barnett

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
24th Sep - 2nd Oct	<del>\$6,515</del>	\$6,235 \$835

Includes \$280 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

BRAND NEW TOUR

\$280 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



12 DAYS

From \$5,383pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●○○○

# Bulgaria

## Thracian Treasures & Mountain Monasteries

The forests, mountain ranges and vast plains of Bulgaria remain in places as spectacularly beautiful as when the Thracians inhabited them thousands of years ago. Following a golden age for archaeological discoveries, Bulgaria is now one of the culturally richest countries in Europe,

### Tour Highlights

- Discover spectacularly varied history and landscapes, introduced by an archaeologist who has excavated all over this country
- Visit no fewer than six fantastic UNESCO World Heritage Sites
- From the Neolithic houses of Stara Zagora and Roman Plovdiv to the exuberantly painted churches in the Rila Mountains – we explore it all
- Spend a full day in Plovdiv, named European Capital of Culture in 2019

### Day One | Sofia

Meet the group in Sofia.

### Day Two | Sofia

Today we explore **Sofia**, where we visit the **Serdica Archaeological Complex** to see the remains of the Roman city discovered during the construction of the metro station in 2010-12 and the **National Archaeological Museum** housed in a former Ottoman Mosque which contains finds from these excavations. This afternoon we admire the **Alexander Nevsky Cathedral**, a mint coloured meringue of architectural delight, the frescoes which decorate **St. George Rotunda** a 4th century and the **Byzantine church of St. Sofia**.

### Day Three | Rila Monastery

We head into the beautiful pine clad foothills of the Rila mountains. Here we visit the eponymous **Rila Monastery** (World Heritage Site) – an iconic (in the literal sense!) masterpiece and one of Bulgaria's most famous and most beautiful sites. Its vibrant frescoes which cover much of the monastic ensemble rival even most the lavish holy shrines around the world.

### Day Four | Sofia - Plovdiv

This morning we start at the **National Museum of History** which houses one of Europe's richest collections of ancient gold and other important archaeological materials as well as medieval ecclesiastical art. Next we visit the UNESCO listed **Boyana Church** with its remarkable 13th century frescoes.

### Day Five | Plovdiv

We enjoy a full day in Plovdiv visiting the archaeological sites in this city, founded by Philip of Macedon. Intense Roman activity here means that little is left of the early city but a great deal of the Roman one, including the forum, stadium, fortress and amphitheatre. We also see the late Roman **Trakart mosaics** and explore the **Archaeological Museum**.

### Day Six | Plovdiv – Kazanlak

We drive north to the 'Valley of the Thracian Kings' stopping en route at the sleepy village of **Hisarya**. Here we visit the small **History Museum** which contains excavated objects found locally. We continue to the 'Valley of the Thracian Kings' where we explore three of the 1500 burial mounds in this area including the beautiful replica of the **Kazanluk Tomb**.

### Day Seven | Plovdiv - Stara Zagora

The Thracian tomb of **Aleksandrovo** with its fine mosaics, is one of the most important archaeological discoveries ever made in Bulgaria. Later we continue to **Stara Zagora**, to see the extraordinary Neolithic houses from the 6th millennium BCE.

### Day Eight | Stara Zagora - Varna

There are very few prehistoric sites in Europe as important as **Karanovo** situated on the edge of the modern village of that name. This huge settlement mound represents successive phases of occupation from the 6th to the 2nd millennium BCE and the

transition from the Stone to the Bronze Age. Afterwards we drive east to **Nessebar**. The island is connected to the mainland by a narrow land-bridge, and we visit the old town to view churches, walls and some lovely 19th century timber houses.

### Day Nine | Varna

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

### Day Ten | Varna – Veliko Tarnovo

This morning we visit the impressive **Madara Horseman** rock relief, another World Heritage site carved on a high sandstone cliff which rises above the village of Madara. We continue to the second UNESCO listed site of the day – the **Sveshtari Thracian Tomb**.

### Day Eleven | Veliko Tarnovo

We start our day in **Veliko Tarnovo**, capital of the medieval Bulgarian Tsars. We explore the **Tsarevets fortress**, a Medieval stronghold which houses the royal and patriarchal palaces. Later, we travel to the ancient site of **Nicopolis ad Istrum** once a thriving Roman colony.

### Day Twelve | Veliko Tarnovo – Sofia

On the final day of our tour, we head to **Arbanasi** where we visit the Folk House and the **Nativity Church**. After lunch, we make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Dr. Katya Melamed

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
29th Sep - 10th Oct	\$5,663	\$5,383 \$665

Includes \$280 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

Image: Alexander Nevsky Cathedral

Image: Nessebar

To book a tour today visit [andantetravels.com](http://andantetravels.com) or call 212-986-3057



\$280 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



10 DAYS

From \$6,630pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Roman Germany

*Exploring the Rhine Frontier*

In AD 9, the largest army of the Roman Empire suffered unprecedented defeat at the Teutoburg Forest where Publius Quinctilius Varus famously lost three legions along with accompanying auxiliary troops. This episode – long remembered in Rome brought about a change in Roman strategies in Germany.

### Tour Highlights

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

### Day One | Cologne

We meet at our hotel in Cologne.

### Day Two | Cologne

Today, we explore the impressive remains of **Cologne**. Despite the Romano-Germanic Museum being closed for some time, we will be able to visit a new display of it in the Belgian House. We continue on to the impressive burial chamber at **Koln-weiden**, and the remains beneath the churches of Gross St. Martin and St. Severin. After lunch we visit the hidden gems dating from the Roman period, including the renowned Ubier monument.

### Day Three | Xanten

We head north to **Xanten** where the Roman town of **Colonia Ulpia Traiana** has been reconstructed. The city was constructed by the army in order to service the legion and the auxiliary troops stationed here; the latest incarnation was built ex novo in the Trajanic period – after the previous city was destroyed in the revolt of the Batavi. The result was one of the largest colonia in the Roman empire and included all the amenities associated with a Roman city, including baths and an amphitheatre. The **archaeological park** at Xanten today is a recreation of this colonia on the site of the archaeological site; though somewhat controversial, it offers us the chance to experience Roman buildings as they must have been.

### Day Four | Cologne – Boppard - Braubach

Today we visit the extensive **Ahrweiler villa** which was built in the 1st century AD at the height of the empire and transformed in the crisis ridden late antique period into a smelting plant. We explore the ruins as well as the excellent museum which preserves artefacts from the site. Then on to **Boppard**, a UNESCO listed town lying in the picturesque Rhine Gorge, with a Medieval core. From here we travel by boat on a beautiful part of the Rhine to our next hotel in Braubach.

### Day Five | Zugmantel, Saarburt & Feldberg

We reach the **limes** – the 500km boundary fortified with great banks and ditches overlooked by 900 watchtowers and patrolled from 60 forts. We start with an exploration of the remains of a fort in **Zugmantel**. We proceed to the UNESCO listed site **Saarburt**, where we explore a spectacularly reconstructed cohort fort, as well as an excellent museum. We end the day at the **limes** in **Feldberg** which preserves remain of a bath house, granary and praetorium.

### Day Six | Braubach - Mainz - Trier

A drive along the Rhine, takes us to **Mainz**. We visit the **Temple of Isis** in Mainz, which shows how cosmopolitan the province was in the Roman period. Afterwards, we have free time where you might visit the Gutenberg Museum.

### Day Seven | Trier

Today is the first of our days in Imperial **Trier**. The city is a UNESCO listed site for its spectacular Roman remains, the most significant in German.

Image: The Porta Nigra

Trier also has wonderful Gothic remains, some of which we will explore in the **Museum am Dom**, which is UNESCO listed for its wonderful collection of early art and illuminated manuscripts. We proceed to the **Rheinisches Landesmuseum**, which contains one of the best collections of ancient artefacts in Germany. In the afternoon, we view **Constantine's Basilica**.

### Day Eight | Porta Nigra & Villa Borg

This morning we visit the famous **Porta Nigra** as well as the **Kaiserthermen Baths** whose impressive remains were built in the 4th century. We proceed to the funerary monument of **Igel**, decorated with remarkable detail of wool merchant's lives before driving to the **Villa Nennig** where see the remarkably well-preserved gladiatorial mosaic. We end the day with a visit to the and the impressive reconstruction of the **Villa Borg**, a villa rustica whose pars dominica and pars rustica both survive.

### Day Nine | Trier - Aachen

We drive to **Aachen**. In the morning we take a walking tour of the city and visit the **Treasury** and end the day at the incredible UNESCO listed **Cathedral of Aachen**.

### Day Ten | Aachen

Before making our independent onward journeys and time permitting, we pay our final visit is to the 14th century **Gothic Rathaus** or town hall.

Image: Rhine river



### Guided by Tony Wilmott

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

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
29th Sep - 8th Oct	<del>\$6,910</del>	\$6,630
		\$735

**Includes \$280 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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

\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



11 DAYS

From \$11,495pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●●○

## Highlights of the Viking Homelands

Denmark, Norway & Sweden

The Vikings were the greatest seafarers, raiders, and traders of the Early Middle Ages. Far from being a race of unwashed barbarians, they presided over a trading network which extended from Greenland to Baghdad. They fought with swords forged from Afghan steel, imported silk from China, reached the coast of North America and sent mercenaries to Constantinople. Following in the Viking's footsteps, we make our own epic voyage across Denmark into Norway and into Sweden.

### Tour Highlights

- Visit Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm, Scandinavia's fascinating capital cities
- Sail through the Kattegat and the Skagerrak straits connecting the Baltic and North Seas
- View the famous Viking longships at Roskilde, the best-preserved collection in Scandinavia
- Enjoy the UNESCO listed archaeological site of Birka, just a boat ride away from vibrant Stockholm

### Day One | Copenhagen - Odense

Meet the group at Copenhagen airport or at our hotel in Odense.

### Day Two | Jelling

This morning we drive to **Jelling**, a UNESCO World Heritage site and one of the most extraordinary archaeological sites in Denmark. We will see Gorm's Stone and Harald's Stone, both decorated and inscribed with runes and with two substantial burial mounds with a church between them. The Kongernes Jelling Visitor Centre provides a splendid view of the whole monument complex from its roof terrace.

### Day Three | Odense - Copenhagen

We travel west to visit the famous **Ladby ship burial** which has been preserved in situ beneath a reconstructed mound. Nothing of the timber has survived, but like Sutton Hoo, the clenching rivets remained in place, with an impression in the earth of the planking. We conclude our visit with the **Ladby Museum** before we cross the Great Belt Bridge to Zealand and our site visit at **Trelleborg**. Here we see the ring fortress, one of a number of extraordinary, well-planned circular forts built at the time of King Harald Bluetooth in the 10th century.

### Day Four | Gammel Lejre & Roskilde

This morning we visit **Gammel Lejre**, the site of a prosperous manor owned by the Danish crown in the Middle Ages. Its association with important literary material, including Beowulf, shows us

that this was a particularly important Iron-age and Viking-period royal centre. We continue to **Roskilde** where the **Viking Ship Museum** displays one of the best-preserved groups of Viking period ships from the Scandinavian world. There will be an opportunity to sail in a replica Viking ship. We also visit the **cathedral**, burial place of Danish royalty.

### Day Five | Copenhagen - Oslo

On our last morning in Denmark, we visit the excellent **National Museum in Copenhagen** with prehistoric and Viking artefacts including the Gundestrup caludron, the Trundholm chariot, an amazing series of Bronze Age coffined burials and a magnificent Bronze Age lur (a long natural blowing horn). In the afternoon we take the ferry to Norway.

### Day Six | Tønsberg

We arrive in Oslo and after breakfast, we disembark and drive south to **Tønsberg**, once an important trading centre. We will visit the **Slottsfjellsmuseet**, a small museum dedicated to the history of the area and includes the Klastad ship. We continue to the **Borre Burial Mounds** and the **Midgard Viking Centre** before returning to Oslo.

### Day Seven | Oslo

This morning we visit the **Medieval Archaeological Park** in Gamle Oslo. Recent excavations in this area have yielded a lot of new information about key architectural and societal developments between 1050 and 1537 AD. After lunch we return to the centre of Oslo to explore the **History Museum**

which houses amid its Viking and early medieval wing, several magnificent Stave Church portals.

### Day Eight | Oslo - Stockholm

Leaving Norway this morning, we take the high-speed train east to Stockholm. This afternoon, we take a walk around **Gamle Stan**, the Old Town which occupies the island of Stadsholmen. It is not a Viking Age town, since it dates from the 13th century, but it retains its medieval street pattern with numerous narrow alleyways.

### Day Nine | Anundshög & Uppsala

We venture out of the capital city to **Anundshög**, the largest royal burial mound in Sweden. Next, we move to **Gamla Uppsala** to view three huge royal burial mounds that legend attributes to kings Aun, Egil and Adlis. Legend and history intertwine as we visit tinghög (parliament hill) and the **Gamla Uppsala Historical Centre**, which displays the artifacts from the excavated mounds.

### Day Ten | Birka

We take a boat to the island of Björkö to explore the UNESCO-listed Viking town of **Birka**. Founded in the year 750, it benefited from its strategic location and became an important Viking trading centre until 975, when Gotland and Sigtuna took over the Russia-Byzantine trade.

### Day Eleven | Stockholm

Time permitting, we will visit the amazingly complex Vasa warship before we make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Dr Brian Ayers

A British archaeologist specialising in medieval urban archaeology, Brian was formerly the City Archaeologist of Norwich.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
6th - 16th Sep	<del>\$11,845</del>	\$11,495 \$1,155

Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

Image: Roskilde Viking Ship Museum

Image: Runestone in Birka



NEW DEPARTURE DATE FOR 2024

\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



8 DAYS

From \$4,985pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Macedonia

*The glories of northern Greece*

This tour of Northern Greece is full of fantastic archaeological sites, marked over the centuries by a cornucopia of peoples and cultures from the Macedonians, Thracians and Slavs to the Romans, Byzantines, Slavs and Ottomans. We follow in the footsteps of conquerors and travel through landscapes dotted with canyons, lakes, waterfalls and rivers in an area thick with history.

### Tour Highlights

- Admire the remarkable frescos which decorate the Byzantine churches of Kastoria
- Discover the waterfalls at Edessa, a city defined by water
- Enjoy the richest ancient burial ever found in Europe – the tomb of Philip II – and its extraordinary museum
- Explore ancient Pella, the capital of Macedonia and famous birthplace of Alexander the Great

### Day One | Thessaloniki - Kastoria

Meet the group at Thessaloniki or at our hotel in Kastoria.

### Day Two | Kastoria

Extraordinarily Kastoria boasts more than 70 Byzantine and post-Byzantine churches dating from the 9th to the 16th centuries scattered around the town. Many are sadly in poor state of repair but distinguished by the frescoes which decorate them. The quality of the artwork is astonishing, and we will visit a small selection at Agios Stephanos, Taxiarchis Oikonomou and Archangel Michael, each concealing something unique behind their intricate brickwork. Later we visit **Aigos Orestiko Archaeological Museum** which displays important finds from excavations in the region and we explore **Dispilio**, the site of a large neolithic settlement that once stood on stilts in the lake.

### Day Three | Kastoria - Edessa

Today we travel to **Edessa**, a city defined by the water, its waterfalls are a striking natural wonder noted from the Roman Empire to the travel writing of Edward Lear. We admire their thundering beauty before we follow the road over the Ottoman bridge that carried the Via Egnatia across the river and explore the remnants of the ancient city. Later we continue to **Mezia** and visit the Nymphaeum where Aristotle instructed the pupils of the Macedonian elite, Alexander the Great among them, in political discourse and philosophy.

### Day Four | Edessa - Pella - Verghina - Thessaloniki

This morning we explore **Pella**, Macedonia's administrative capital and the birthplace of both Philip II and Alexander the Great. We see the monumental agora, and houses and the exceptional mosaics made from carefully selected natural pebbles, now on display in the museum. We continue to **Verghina** (ancient Aigai), the capital of the Macedonian kingdom before its move to Pella in the 4th century BCE. After our site visit, we continue to Thessaloniki.

### Day Five | Thessaloniki

Today is devoted to **Thessaloniki**, founded by King Cassander as a new capital city. In the morning we explore the city on foot taking in the Agora and Roman forum before heading to



Images top to bottom: Walls of Thessaloniki & Pella

the Late Roman palace complex of Galerius to view the Rotunda and the Triumphal Arch of the emperor. We will take a short walk along the promenade to see the White Tower, before stopping for lunch nearby. In the afternoon, we visit the **Archaeological Museum** with extraordinary finds from the city and its region.

### Day Six | Dion

We travel south following the curve of the coastline to **Dion**. It is here that both Philip II and Alexander used to celebrate their victories at by holding Olympic Games and magnificent receptions and where Alexander conducted sacrifices before his campaign into Asia in 334 BCE. We will also visit the small **archaeological museum** nearby.

### Day Seven | Thessaloniki

This morning we pay a visit to one of the city's oldest churches, Aghios Dimitrios and Aghia Sophia, before we head to the Byzantine, UNESCO World Heritage listed, Walls of Thessaloniki, or Kasta as they are known to those that live in the city. Over half of these fortifications which once protected the city, are still standing today. Afterwards, a visit to the adjacent and equally superb **Byzantine Museum** which completes our survey of the archaeology of the region.

### Day Eight | Thessaloniki

We make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Milena Melfi

Milena is an archaeologist of the ancient Greek world mostly interested in the archaeology of sanctuaries and religious sites. As a field archaeologist, she has worked on surveys and excavations in Greece and Italy.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/DbI Share	Sgl Supp.
16th – 23rd Sep	<del>\$5,335</del> \$4,985	\$635

Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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

BRAND NEW TOUR

NEW DEPARTURE DATE FOR 2024

\$280 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



9 DAYS

From \$5,025pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○

## Wild Thrace

*Discover ancient kingdoms across this region*

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

### Tour Highlights

- Discover the traces of Roman, Medieval and Ottoman history which remain across the region
- Take a short trip across the Thracian sea to the lovely unspoiled islands of Thasos and Samothrace
- Explore the Sanctuary of the Great Gods, built to honour fertility deities around 1000 BCE

### Day One | Thessaloniki - Kavala

Meet in Thessaloniki and drive to **Kavala** visiting en route the great Athenian colony of Amphipolis, where we explore remains of a necropolis, a gymnasium and houses dating from the Roman period.

### Day Two | Kavala & Phillipi

Today we explore the **Archaeological Museum** in Kavala which houses remains from Amphipolis and other ancient sites found nearby. We proceed to an important UNESCO-listed site on the Via Egnatia, the Macedonian and Roman colony of **Phillipi**, named after Philip II, who conquered it, and which is famed for the decisive battle between Octavian, Antony and the Conspirators who killed Caesar. Here we explore the forum, heroon and well-preserved theatre, as well as impressive Byzantine monuments. We end the day with a visit to **Kavala** where we see the **Byzantine Castle**.

### Day Three | Thasos

We travel by ferry to the Island of **Thasos**. Here we visit the remains of the classical city. This was originally a Parian colony, enriched by its gold and silver mines. After lunch we make a stop at the **Limenas Museum** before returning to the mainland.

### Day Four | Abdera & Xanthi

We spend the day exploring the site of ancient **Abdera** which had strong links with

Phoenicians and produced a number of important scholars including the Sophist Protagoras and historian Hecataeus. The city, which became prosperous in the Classical period through its trade with Thrace, has left important remains, including a number of houses from the Roman period and later Byzantine churches. We journey afterwards to **Xanthi**, a major trading town in Byzantine and Ottoman eras.

### Day Five | Kavala - Samothrace

The journey this morning takes us to **Komotini**, whose history was tied to the Via Egnatia down to the late antique period when Theodosius fortified the road here. We move on to **Alexandroupolis**. We take time to see the Byzantine and Ottoman buildings in this beautiful seaside city, which lies in the crossroads between east and west, on the borders between Bulgaria and Turkey. From here we catch a ferry to the lovely island of Samothrace.



Images top to bottom: Kavala & Phillipi

### Day Six | Samothrace - Alexandroupolis

We spend the morning exploring the famous Classical sanctuary. We also visit **Chora village** set high up on Mount Saos and its citadel built by the Galluzi family in the 14th century when Venice controlled large parts of the Aegean. Later today we return to the mainland and our hotel in Alexandroupolis.

### Day Seven | Didymoteicho & Mikri Doxipara Zoni

Today we visit the border fortress of **Didymoteicho**. Here we visit some of the Byzantine monuments, including the castle. We proceed to the aristocratic Thracian tumulus cemetery at **Mikri Doxipara Zoni**, built in the 2nd century AD for four family members buried with a rich assortment of elite goods, including bronze and glass goods, as well as carriages and horses buried with the deceased.

### Day Eight | Mesembria & Maroneia

We explore the ruins at **Mesembria**, beautifully situated on the coast near the mouth of the stream Shabla Dere, now identified as the ancient Greek polis of Zone. Remains here include a small sanctuary of Demeter and a temple of Apollo. In the afternoon we visit the **Alexandroupolis Archaeological Museum**.

### Day Nine | Thessaloniki

Our tour comes to an end today and we make our independent onward journeys.



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.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
17th - 25th Sep	<del>\$5,305</del> \$5,025	\$540

Includes \$280 Summer Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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



BRAND NEW TOUR

\$630 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT



14 DAYS

From \$9,970pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

## Turkey: from Çatal Hüyük to Göbekli Tepe

*A journey through Cappadocia and south east Turkey*

Join us on a kaleidoscopic journey through the heartlands of Turkey from Çatal Hüyük, arguably the earliest city in the world, to Göbekli Tepe, a remarkable early Neolithic complex in upper Mesopotamia. We discover the otherworldly geology of Cappadocia, a bizarrely beautiful landscape matched by its unique archaeology, underground cities and vividly frescoed churches, and the elaborate ritual sites of the ancient kingdoms in South East Turkey. We travel through The Fertile Crescent, arcing around the flat lands of Mesopotamia, which saw the birth of agriculture and the first domestication of cattle, goats, sheep and pigs, and we see the spectacular Roman mosaics in Gaziantep, rescued from the flood waters of a dam on the nearby Euphrates. Our journey includes an astonishing array of world-class sites, four of them UNESCO-listed, as we chart the civilisations which rose and fell here over the millennia.

### Tour Highlights

- Discover one of the oldest settlements in the world at Çatal Hüyük
- View the extraordinary volcanic landscapes, underground cities and rock-cut churches in Cappadocia
- Visit the excavations at Göbekli Tepe, with megaliths predating Stonehenge by an impressive 7,500 years
- Walk up to the World Heritage Site of Nemrut Dag, where huge statues of syncretised Greek-Persian gods and the kings of Commagene gaze imposingly from the summit of a remote peak

### Day One | Konya

We meet at our hotel. in Konya

### Day Two | Çatal Hüyük & Binbir Kilise

We begin with one of the oldest settlements anywhere in the world: **Çatal Hüyük**, which comprises two tells rising 20m up from the plain. One of the largest and most distinctive sites of the Neolithic period, dating 7500-6500 BC, it is exceptional in its layout of closely packed houses with roof access into the buildings. In the afternoon we explore the remote early Byzantine site of **Binbir Kilise**, complete with Syriac style churches, monasteries and houses.

### Day Three | Konya

Before we leave Konya, we visit the **Mevlana Museum**, former tekke (dervish hall) and mausoleum of the famous Sufi mystic Rumi, the **Karatay Madrasa**, an excellent example of Selçuk Turkish architecture, and the **Alaeddin Mosque** with its typically Selçuk 'forest' of columns and very early ebony prayer platform. After lunch we make the long journey to Göreme.

### Day Four | Göreme & Sarı Han Caravansary

Engaging with the regional culture this morning we visit a local co-operative which produces Anatolian rugs, a tradition which has integrated different motifs and practices introduced by the Armenians and Caucasian and Kurdish tribes. Afterwards we head out to the **Sarıhan Caravansary**, one of the many which once serviced the Selçuk trade route from Konya to Kayseri. After lunch we continue to our main visit of the day at **Göreme Open Air Museum**. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is a fairytale landscape of eroded volcanic tuffs, full of rock-cut churches of the mid-Byzantine period, which bear witness to the faith, fervour and tenacity of devout Christian communities, beset both by Arab raiders and the persecutions of the Iconoclastic movement.

### Day Five | İhlara Valley & Aşıklı Hüyük

We start our explorations of **Cappadocia** with a visit to the **İhlara Valley**, a beautiful, verdant gorge occupied by a fast-flowing river. The gorge is believed to have contained more than four thousand dwellings and a hundred churches cut

into the rocks, used for worship by early Christian communities. We will explore some of these churches this morning before moving on to visit **Aşıklı Hüyük**, an impressive settlement mound comprised of layers dated between 9000 and 7400 BC, and which developed in part owing to its proximity to an important obsidian source.

### Day Six | Göreme – Derinkuyu - Adana

Today we head south, stopping en route at the extraordinary underground city of **Derinkuyu**. This is one of the largest and most accessible of many such Byzantine settlements. Little is known of their true function, however, with such a geology at their disposal, it may almost have been as easy to dig down as build up. We continue our journey south across the Anatolian plateau before crossing the formidable Taurus range and dropping down to the fertile Cilician Plain to overnight at Adana.

### Day Seven | Adana - Karatepe - Gaziantep

This morning we visit **Adana Archaeology Museum**, which houses a fine collection of Hittite artefacts. We continue east and rise into wooded mountains to visit the 8th century BC fortress palace of **Karatepe**, now located in an archaeological park. A bilingual text inscribed on the gate here reveals the name of the neo-Hittite ruler who build the fortress: "I am indeed Azatiwatas, The Blessed of the Sun, the servant of the Storm-God, whom Awarikus exalted, king of Adanawa...". The twin gateways of the fortress palace are lined with relief-carved figurative slabs.

### Day Eight | Gaziantep

Our main focus this morning is the **Zeugma Mosaic Museum**, which contains the very fine Roman mosaics from Zeugma, a city which stood on a crossing of the Euphrates river, and which has now been largely flooded by the construction of the Birecik Dam. We also visit the town of **Halfeti**, itself partially submerged as a result of the same project. Here we can see houses and minarets emerging from the water, and further up the river the monumental bulk of the largely Medieval fortress **Rumkale**.

### Day Nine | Gaziantep - Adiyaman

We start the day today with a walk around historic **Gaziantep** and explore the **citadel**, largely built by Turkish Mamluks in the 13th – 16th centuries. The citadel itself lies on top of existing Roman walls and a Neolithic tell. The bazaars are full of copper ware, dried pepper flakes and pistachio nuts, and the mosques betray the influence of the Arab lands to the south. Indeed, Gaziantep is reminiscent of Aleppo, some 50 miles away in Syria. In the afternoon we take the long but scenic road north to overnight at Adiyaman, at the foot of 7,000 ft high Mount Nemrut.

### Day Ten | Mount Nemrut & Adiyaman

We spend the day with the rulers and monuments of the Commagenian kingdom today – beginning at the **Roman bridge at Cendere**, built by the Legio XVI Flavia Firma in the reign of Septimius Severus around AD 200, and the **Karakuş (Black Bird) Tumulus**, probably built to cover the burials





Image: Mount Nemrut

of the mother, sister and niece of Antiochus' son and successor. After lunch we continue to the remote hilltop site of **Mount Nemrut** (UNESCO World Heritage Site), where Antiochus I had a monumental sanctuary constructed to promote his rule, comprising the world's largest tumulus and a collection of huge statues of the gods and of himself.

#### Day Eleven | Adiyaman - Şanlıurfa

This morning we journey to Şanlıurfa where we visit **Şanlıurfa Museum**, a huge complex completed in 2015 and home to a treasure trove of finds. Its exhibition halls contain a remarkable series of finds from the Neolithic sites around Şanlıurfa, as well as a life-sized reconstruction of one of the stone circles at Gobekli Tepe, along with Assyrian, Babylonian, Hittite, Neolithic, and Bronze Age artefacts. Adjoining the main museum another large structure houses a superb collection of in-situ late-Roman/early Byzantine mosaics, once part of the palace of the rulers of the kingdom of Osroene.

#### Day Twelve | Göbekli Tepe & Karahan Tepe

Our morning is dedicated to the excavations at **Göbekli Tepe**, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2018. Situated on top of a rounded hill in the anti-Taurus mountains a few miles northeast of Şanlıurfa, this spectacular early Neolithic complex, an extraordinary series of structures centred on carved megaliths up to 5 metres in height, has challenged the conventional

Image: Göreme Open Air Museum

view that only settled societies could produce monumental architecture. In the afternoon we continue further east and south to the remote site of **Karahan Tepe**, where a series of circular enclosures and T-shaped monoliths (250 of them) have been uncovered. The 10-hectare site, along with Göbekli Tepe, forms one of the so called Taş Tepeler (Stone Hills) sites in the region.

#### Day Thirteen | Şanlıurfa

Today we explore more of Şanlıurfa. We view the **Pools of Abraham**, filled with sacred carp. It was here that Muslim teachings tell how Abraham was thrown into the fire by Nimrod, but upon landing in the fire, the flames were turned into water and the logs into fish. Şanlıurfa is Turkey's most Middle Eastern city, and we continue our exploration of this bustling place with a foray into the labyrinthine bazaar, a glass of tea in the courtyard of an Ottoman caravanserai and ascent of the rocky citadel for splendid views of the old city.

#### Day Fourteen | Şanlıurfa

After breakfast, we make our independent onward journeys..



#### Guided by Terry Richardson

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

#### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

#### Your archaeological experience

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

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
23rd Sep - 6th Oct	<del>£10,600</del> \$9,970	\$2,490

**Includes \$630 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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





12 DAYS

From \$9,970pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●○○

# Egypt

*Highlights and discoveries*

The archaeology of ancient Egypt is one of the most instantly recognisable of all the great civilisations. This is a narrative of power, vision and ambition. The monuments of Egypt are much more than dry and dusty stones – through the expertise of our Guide Lecturers, we get to ‘meet’ the real ancient Egyptians.

### Tour Highlights

- Experience the delights of cruising the famous River Nile
- Discover the impressive temple site of Abu Simbel
- See the grand gallery as well as the royal burial chamber of the Great Pyramid of Khufu
- Explore the enigmatic Valleys of the Kings and Queens, and pay a visit to the exceptionally well-preserved tomb of Nefertari

### Day One | Cairo

We meet the group at our hotel in Cairo.

### Day Two | Cairo

We devote our day to **Saqqara**, the vast necropolis to the ancient Egyptian capital of **Memphis**. We discover the extraordinary **Step Pyramid of Djoser**, the smooth-sided **Pyramid of Unas** and the **Mastaba of Mereruka**. Later we explore the fabulous Serepeum, catacombs for the sacred Apis bulls and the Imhotep Museum.

### Day Three | Cairo

This morning, we pay a visit to the pyramid complex on the **Giza Plateau**, including the **Great Pyramid**, where atmospheric passageways lead to the breathtaking grand gallery and royal burial chamber. We also explore the **Valley Temple of Khafra** and the enigmatic **Great Sphinx**. In the afternoon, we enjoy a visit to the new **Grand Egyptian Museum\***, where the world's most extensive exhibition in pharaonic artefacts can be seen. Among the treasures on display are the solid gold mask of Tutankhamun.

### Day Four | Cairo – Luxor

We start with a visit to the pyramid complex at Dahshur where we discover the Bent Pyramid and the Red Pyramid. Afternoon site visits include **Memphis**, founded over 5000 years ago and **The National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation** whose exceptional collection includes the royal mummies. This evening we fly from Cairo to Luxor.

### Day Five | Luxor

Our first visit of the day is to the **Memorial Temple of Hatshepsut** at Deir el-Bahri. In the afternoon, we visit the famous Colossi of Memnon, two enormous statues of the Pharaoh Amenhotep III standing at a towering 18-metres high. Afterwards, we visit the Qurna tombs of **Ramose**, **Userhet** and **Khaemhet** and **Deir El Medina**, the village of the workers who constructed the tomb in the Valley of the Kings.

### Day Six | Luxor

The **Valley of the Kings** awaits us today. This was the final resting place of royals and nobility for almost 500 years. Its most notable occupant is, of course, King Tutankhamun, so famously discovered by Howard Carter in 1922, and since returned to his original burial place where he now lies undisturbed. After lunch, we visit the **Valley of the Queens**, which includes the exceptionally preserved Tomb of Nefertari.

### Day Seven | Luxor

This morning we lose ourselves in the captivating complex of **Karnak**. This is a spectacular multi-period location with a wealth of religious and historical inscriptions. This afternoon we visit the **Ramesseum**, with its fallen colossus of Ramesses II, an astounding testament to the Pharaoh's reign. Afterwards, we make our way to **Medinet Habu**, arguably the best preserved temple of the New Kingdom. On the East Bank we check in to our Nile cruise boat. After lunch we explore **Luxor Temple**.

### Day Eight | Luxor - Edfu

Before we set sail this afternoon we visit the fantastic **Luxor Museum** - a masterfully arranged collection of archaeological artefacts and home to celebrated works of art, including the famous statue of Tuthmosis III, and Luxor Temple with its avenue of sphinxes and gorgeous papyrus columns.

### Day Nine | Edfu - Kom Ombo

We make our way to the temples of the gods of Upper Egypt, starting with the **Temple of Horus at Edfu**. The complex houses an Nilometer, a structure made to measure the depth and clarity of flooding Nile water. This afternoon, we explore the **Temple of Sobek** and **Horus the Elder** at Kom Ombo and the site's Crocodile Museum.

### Day Ten | Philae - Aswan

Today we make our way to ancient Egypt's southern border and visit the impressive **Temple of Isis** in Philae. After a stop at **Aswan (High) Dam**, we visit the ancient Quarries at Aswan, site of the spectacular **'Unfinished Obelisk'**.

### Day Eleven | Aswan - Abu Simbel - Cairo

We disembark the MS Tulip and transfer to Aswan Airport and fly to **Abu Simbel**. Here, we make the most of our last day exploring what is considered to be Egypt's most impressive temple site before we fly to Cairo.

### Day Twelve | Cairo

Today we make our independent onward journeys.



### Guided by Lucia Gahlin

A specialist in the archaeology of ancient Egypt, Lucia has been leading tours to this country for over 20 years.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

*\*subject to the new museum being open*

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
24th Sep - 5th Oct	<del>\$10,390</del> \$9,970	\$1,675

**Includes \$420 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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



17 DAYS

From \$12,500pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●●●

## Peru - In Search of the Incas

*A journey from the Pacific to the ancient heartland of the Inca Empire*

Machu Picchu, Cuzco, the Colonial jewel of Arequipa and the enigmatic Nazca Lines – this is a tour of Peru’s major archaeological and cultural attractions. Explore world-famous Inca sites and the intriguing remains of both their lesser-known predecessors and immediate descendants, as we move from the Pacific to the ancient heartland of the Inca Empire.

### Tour Highlights

- Experience the world-renowned Machu Picchu after the crowds start to disperse and again at daybreak, before it gets busy
- Discover the Inca heartland around their capital of Cuzco, a location that is also home to the Incas’ most sacred shrine – the Temple of the Sun
- Grasp the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to take a thrilling flight over the mysterious Nazca Lines\*

### Day One | Lima

We meet this evening for our first meal together as a group.

### Day Two | Lima

Our day is spent in Lima, starting in the **National Museum of the Archaeology, Anthropology and History of Peru**. After lunch we have a walking tour of some of the highlights of the Spanish Colonial capital.

### Day Three | Lima - Nazca

Departing from Lima, we drive south along the desert coast to the city of **Ica**. Here, we tour the **Regional Museum**, which is home to a wealth of ancient coastal artefacts – notably some fine pots from both the Paracas and Nazca cultures. Ica is a fertile agricultural area and it produces some of Peru’s best wine. Later in the afternoon, we continue south to the modern town of **Nazca**.

### Day Four | Nazca

A drive across the desert to the extensive Nazca ceremonial centre of **Cahuachi** is how our day begins. Featuring some 40 mounds that originally formed the bases to mudbrick structures, Cahuachi is thought to have been a pilgrimage site, maintained by a small, permanent population, but visited at ritually important times of the year by people from throughout the Nazca area. After lunch in town, we visit the **Antonini Archaeological Museum**, home to an extensive collection of Nazca material that includes pots,

intriguing architectural models and mummies.

### Day Five | Nazca - Puerto Inka

First thing this morning, we have a chance to fly over the **Nazca Lines** in a small plane. This optional activity is pre-bookable with the price available on request. It is a truly remarkable experience and the best way to gain an appreciation of both the scale and extent of these pre-Columbian geoglyphs. Breakfast follows at the hotel and then we head to the coastal site of **Puerto Inka**, a little-visited yet extensive ancient port, from where products in the Inca times were shipped to Cuzco along a road that is still visible heading off into the interior.

### Day Six | Puerto Inka - Arequipa

With scenic stops along the way, we drive on further south and then inland to the city of **Arequipa**, at a height of 2,300m and dramatically surrounded by volcanoes. Arequipa’s Spanish Colonial centre is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and not only is there much to see here, it also possesses a famous regional cuisine.

### Day Seven | Arequipa

Our day in Arequipa begins with viewing the well-preserved **Santa Catalina Monastery**, which has long been Arequipa’s most famous attraction. Founded in 1575, the convent is a small town within a city, enclosed by lofty protective walls. It has its own streets, tiny individual houses, kitchens, storerooms, a refectory, cloisters and a number of chapels – most of the fabrics of all these structures are vividly painted. We continue to the

**‘Museo Santuarios Andinos’**. The museum houses archaeological material from the region, but it is most famously home to some well-preserved mummies of the Inca period, found among the glaciers of nearby mountains. After, there is time to explore other parts of Colonial Arequipa, to visit the Jesuit and other churches, and some of the impressive Colonial houses.

### Day Eight | Arequipa - Cuzco

In the morning, we fly to **Cuzco**. Upon arrival, there is time to relax and acclimatise to the altitude before taking an optional walk through the Inca capital.

### Day Nine | Cuzco

We start out with a walking tour of **Cuzco**, during which we see the **Coricancha** – or Temple of the Sun – the Incas’ most sacred shrine. After this, we make our way to the extensive **Inca Museum**, very close to Cuzco’s main plaza. This afternoon, we explore the great fortress of **Sacsayhuaman**, its massive walls constructed from huge blocks of limestone that were dragged from nearby quarries by thousands of workers, paying their labour tax to the Inca state. From Sacsayhuaman, we travel a short distance to the site of **Q’enqo**, built of comparably worked stone, but a smaller, sacred site from where observations of planets and stars were made.



Image: Machu Picchu

Image: Nazca Lines





Image: Santa Catalina Monastery

#### Day Ten | Cuzco

We make our way to **Tipon** to see this beautifully positioned archaeological site, which has Inca terrace systems. After lunch, we see the **Temple of Viracocha** at Raqchi, built largely from mudbrick on stone foundations. This is Inca in date, but is surrounded by other structures, notably a large series of storehouses that have recently been discovered to be much earlier.

#### Day Eleven | Cuzco - Ollantaytambo

In the morning, we travel to **Chincho**. Originally the private estate of the ruler Topa Inca, it possesses carved rock outcrops, sweeping Inca terraces and a painted early Colonial church that incorporates a large Inca hall. We also make a specially arranged visit to a local family to witness a **demonstration of traditional weaving**. We continue to **Moray** with its extraordinary circular terrace systems. Here, we have a boxed lunch before visiting the **Urubamba Valley** and **Ollantaytambo**, where we walk through more finely constructed Inca terracing.

#### Day Twelve | Ollantaytambo

We explore the **Ollantaytambo** ruins, which enjoy views across the Urubamba Valley to the ancient quarry site. From here, we drive up through the Patacancha Valley past a number of settlements to the Inca site and Colonial church located at **Marcacocha**. Here, we have a picnic lunch before returning to **Ollantaytambo**, where we visit other parts of this uniquely well-preserved Inca town.

Image: Aguas Calientes

#### Day Thirteen | Ollantaytambo - Machu Picchu

We board the train in Ollantaytambo for **Machu Picchu** and travel along the Urubamba River to Aguas Calientes. In the afternoon, we catch a bus up to the legendary site to spend the rest of our day here.

#### Day Fourteen | Machu Picchu - Cuzco

We set off early this morning to finish touring **Machu Picchu** before returning to **Aguas Calientes**. Later, we return by train to Poroy and on to Cuzco.

#### Day Fifteen | Cuzco

A further day to explore **Cuzco**. We take a walking tour that visits the cathedral, the church of San Blas, the Casa Cabrera and the Plaza Nazarenas. After lunch, we visit the **Casa Concha Machu Picchu Museum**. The rest of the day is left for us to spend as we wish.

#### Day Sixteen | Cuzco - Lima

We return to Lima this morning and visit the impressive **Larco Herrera Museum**. The collection here has objects from all the ancient cultures we have seen on this tour.

#### Days Seventeen | Lima

After a relaxing morning followed by lunch by the sea, we make our independent onward journeys.

*\*Nazca Lines flight is optional. Pre-bookable on request, at supplement.*



#### Guided by Prof. John Rick

Associate Professor Emeritus at Stanford University, John focuses on South American archaeology and the lost city of the Incas.

#### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

#### Your archaeological experience

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

#### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
12th - 28th Sep	<del>£13,270</del> \$12,500	\$1,680

**Includes \$770 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024**

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

\$350 AUTUMN SAVER DISCOUNT

NO SINGLE SUPPLEMENT

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



14 DAYS

From \$6,890pp

Departing September

Activity Level ●●●●○

# Uzbekistan

## Sites and cities along the Silk Road

Follow in the footsteps of history as we explore the sites and cities of the Silk Road. 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 Shakhrysbz
- 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 | Tashkent

We meet at our hotel in Tashkent. In the afternoon, we visit the **State Museum of History of Uzbekistan**.

### Day Two | 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 Three | Tashkent - Nukus

We Fly to **Nukus**, and 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 **Mizdakhan**, first founded some 2,000 years ago and still a place of pilgrimage and mysticism.

### Day Four | Nukus - Khiva

Our day starts at the **Savitsky Art Museum**, which hosts the world's second-largest collection of Russian avant-garde art. Next, we travel south along the Amu River to the remote ruined tepe of **Chilpik Dakhma**, a Zoroastrian "Tower of Silence". Our final destination is **Khiva**, an important Silk Road city famous for its role as a slave trading post.

### Day Five | Khiva

We visit the fortresses of **Ayaz Kala**, situated on a hilltop overlooking the Kyzylkum Desert, and erected to protect local inhabitants against nomadic attacks. We continue to the abandoned

city of **Toprak Kala**, a complex built in the 3rd century AD by the slave-owning Khorezm.

### Day Six | Khiva

Today we step into a world of "Arabian Nights", spending a whole day exploring **Khiva** on foot. Although it was virtually destroyed by Genghis Khan, much of what was subsequently rebuilt is impressive and is the first of Uzbekistan's sites to achieve World Heritage status.

### Day Seven | 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). We arrive at **Bukhara** mid-afternoon, allowing time to visit the beautifully located **Samani and Chashma Ayub mausoleums**, and the **Bolo Khauz Mosque**.

### Day Eight | Bukhara

Formerly part of the Persian Empire, **Bukhara** was seized by the Samanids in AD 903 and went on to become a significant centre for intellectualism in the Islamic world. We visit the **Po-i-Kalyan** religious complex, and later enjoy a **traditional folk show** before dinner.

### Day Nine | 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**, and the **Bolo Haus Mosque**, as well as other places of interest.

### Day Ten | 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 Eleven | 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 Twelve | Samarkand

Switching to smaller vehicles, we travel to the turquoise-domed city of **Shakhrysbz**, 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 Thirteen | 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 Fourteen | Tashkent - London

Our tour ends in Tashkent and we catch our return flight back to London.



### Guided by Katie Campbell

Katie worked as a field archaeologist for more than a decade across Europe, the Middle East and Central Asia before writing a doctorate on the Mongol Conquest at Oxford. She is currently researching medieval cities in Central Asia.

### Your inclusive holiday price includes

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

### Your archaeological experience

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

### Dates & prices per person

Date	Twin/Db'l Share	Sgl Supp.
14th - 27th Sep	<del>\$7,240</del> \$6,890	<del>\$575</del> \$0

Includes \$350 Autumn Saver discount if you book by 30th June 2024

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



# OCTOBER TOUR AVAILABILITY

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. Travelling in October offers a different choice of destinations and in some cases the chance to enjoy a bit of winter sun as we travel further afield.

Romans, Visigoths & Viziers	Departs 1st October	Hidden Rome	Departs 19th October
Jordan - Petra and the Desert Fortresses	Departs 1st October	Romans on the Bay of Naples	Departs 21st October
Richard III - Hero or Villain?	Departs 1st October	Lake Garda & the Cities of Veneto	Departs 21st October
Armenia & Georgia	Departs 3rd October	Classical Turkey: The Aegean Coast	Departs 26th October
Crete & Santorini - Rise & Fall of Minoan Civilisation	Departs 7th October	Algeria	Departs 27th October
The Peloponnese	Departs 7th October	Pompeii, Herculaneum & Classical Campania	Departs 28th October
Algeria	Departs 13th October	Morocco & Andalucía	Departs 29th October
Discover the Dodecanese	Departs 17th October	Imperial Majesty in Ravenna & Venice	Departs 30th October
Chauvet & Cosquer	Departs 18th October	Cruising from Catalonia to Andalusia	Departs 30th October

## Get in touch with an expert

If you are interested in joining one of our tours and want to know more, please do give our Specialist Travel Executives a call today.

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