ANCIENT CITIES OF NORTH AFRICA
A Voyage from Sicily to Lisbon
Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship DIANA
April 13 – 25, 2023
Dear Wellesley Alumna,

During this voyage you will encounter the rich ancient, medieval and contemporary histories of the southern and western shores of the Mediterranean. Beginning in Sicily, and with ports of call in Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Spain and Portugal, you will explore the history of the region from a number of cultures, histories, and perspectives. In Tunisia, the starting point of the Arab Spring, you will visit the ruins of Carthage and marvel at the stunning Roman mosaics of the Bardo Museum. St. Augustine’s Hippo Regius is your first call in Algeria, followed by the UNESCO-designated Roman ruins at Djemila and the tomb of Mauritanian King Juba II in Tipasa. Further west along the North African coast, you will explore the Islamic influences in the ancient medinas and modern markets of Oran, Tangier, and Tetouan. You will end your journey in southern Iberia, including two days in cosmopolitan Seville, where the legacies of multiple cultures mingle in the monuments of this great Moorish city.

Travelers will be joined by Wellesley faculty, Bryan Burns, Chair of Wellesley’s Classical Studies Department and distinguished alumna and Professor Emerita of Classics, Mary Lefkowitz* ’57, who has introduced generations of Wellesley alumnae to the wonders and enduring relevance of classical antiquity. Together, they will help travelers understand the influence of Greek and Roman culture to the later course of Mediterranean history. For insight into more recent history, Ambassador Richard Erdman, whose 45-year career with the U.S. Department of State included service as Ambassador to Algeria from 2003-2006, will share his experience and expertise.

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

Please join Professors Burns and Lefkowitz, Ambassador Erdman, and fellow alumnae aboard Diana in April 2023 to discover some of the remarkably rich stories of the Ancient Cities of North Africa.

Warm regards,

Kathryn Mackintosh ’03
Executive Director
Wellesley College Alumnae Association

* Professor Lefkowitz led two successful trips for Wellesley in 2022, one to Sicily and the other to the Greek Islands and Turkey. She takes great pleasure in the camaraderie and intellectual stimulation of traveling with Wellesley alumnae. Her participation in this trip is contingent on her continued good health. It is our fondest wish, and hers, that she will join this 2023 trip and share the podium with her esteemed colleague, Professor Burns.

Cover: Arch of Caracalla, Djemila, Algeria

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

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

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

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Thursday, April 13, 2023
DEPART THE UNITED STATES

Friday, April 14
PALERMO, SICILY, ITALY
Arrive in Palermo and transfer to the elegant NH Palermo (or similar), our home for the night. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner with fellow travelers. (D)

Saturday, April 15
PALERMO/EMBARKATION
Palermo is one of the Mediterranean’s most enchanting cities. Founded by the Phoenicians in 827 BC and conquered by the Saracens in the 9th century, Palermo became one of Europe’s greatest cities in the 12th century, when the Normans took control. Visit the Cappella Palatina, the royal chapel built by Roger II between 1132 and 1143. A wonder of Byzantine-Arab-Norman artistry, it features dazzling mosaics, an exquisitely carved wooden ceiling, and magnificent inlaid marble floors and walls. We will also travel to nearby Monreale to visit its famed Norman cathedral and elegant cloister before embarking Diana in the late afternoon. (B,L,D)

Sunday, April 16
TUNIS, TUNISIA
From Tunis, travel to storied Carthage, a Phoenician stronghold from the 9th century BC. The site includes several Phoenician remains, including Tophet, the sanctuary of the gods Tanit and Baal, as well as many monuments from the Roman period. Returning to Tunis, we explore the Bardo Museum, world-renowned for its spectacular collection of Roman mosaics, and enjoy time at leisure visiting the city’s medina and its souks. (B,L,D)

Monday, April 17
ANNABA, ALGERIA
Annaba is home to the ancient site of Hippo Regius, once ruled by Phoenicians, Romans, Vandals, and Byzantines, among others. Explore Hippo’s Roman Forum, the largest and oldest in North Africa, and visit the Baths dedicated to Septimius Severus. At the nearby modern Basilica of St. Augustine, we will enjoy the hilltop view over the ruins and the rest of the city before visiting the basilica proper, which is dedicated to the author of the Confessions and The City of God, Bishop of Hippo, in the early 5th century. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, April 18
BEJAIA/DJEMILA
From the port of Bejaia, a drive into the hills of the interior brings us to Djemila, which the UNESCO World Heritage convention describes as “one of the world’s most beautiful Roman ruins.” The site includes a Triumphant Arch to Emperor Caracalla, built in AD 216; Grand Baths; a market; and the Old Forum, featuring stunning friezes and a third-century altar. Also visit the local museum, exhibiting a superb collection of mosaics and other artifacts. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, April 19
ALGIERS/TIPASA
Located about 40 miles west of Algiers, Tipasa’s ancient temples and ruins overlook the Mediterranean to dramatic effect. Visit the Villa of Frescoes, a Roman mansion; the second-century Judicial Basilica; a 4th-century Christian Basilica; the site’s museum; and the Tomb of the Chretienne, burial place of Mauritanian King Juba II and his wife, Cleopatra Selene. Time permitting, we will discover some of the delights of contemporary Algiers before returning to the ship. (B,L,D)

Thursday, April 20
ORAN
Oran, like much of North Africa, has been ruled by a variety of powers—Berbers, Arabs, Ottomans, Spanish, and French. Today, as the second largest city in Algeria, it is a center of commerce,
industry, and culture. We will explore several of Oran’s highlights, including the 17th-century Fort Santa Cruz that overlooks the city and the Sidi El Houari district. We will also visit the Medina Jedida, a massive market selling flowers, textiles, jewelry, and souvenirs of every description. Here we will have the opportunity to sample Algerian street food, including kerentica, a cake made with chickpea flower and eggs that is a specialty of Oran. (B,L,D)

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

Saturday, April 22
**SEVILLE, SPAIN**
Occupied by the Romans, conquered by the Moors, and ruled by a succession of Catholic monarchs, Seville is one of Europe’s most important and affluent maritime cites. After docking in the city along the banks of the Guadalquivir River, explore the Alcazar, the oldest royal palace still in use in Europe and a UNESCO World Heritage site. Travel to the historic Barrio Santa Cruz, a neighborhood of labyrinthine streets and alleys dating to the Middle Ages, when it was the old Jewish Quarter. Enjoy some time at leisure, as the ship remains docked overnight. (B,L,D)

Sunday, April 23
**SEVILLE**
This morning, tour Seville’s large and fanciful Gothic Cathedral—the largest Gothic cathedral in the world and the burial site of Christopher Columbus. See the Cathedral’s main points of interest, including the Capilla Mayor and La Giralda—the intricately detailed bell tower that is the city’s most well-known symbol. Also visit Maria Luisa Park, once a private garden attached to the Palace of San Telmo, now Seville’s largest public green space. In the afternoon, we board Diana and cruise down the Guadalquivir River on our way to Portugal. (B,L,D)

Monday, April 24
**PORTIMAO, PORTUGAL**
Portimao is our gateway to the Algarve and to Silves and Monchique. Silves is a typical Algarve village of cobblestoned streets lined with shops selling local handicrafts, many of them housed in buildings of Arab and Moorish design. Moorish Silves Castle, the best-preserved castle in the region, offers panoramic views of the town and the surrounding countryside. In Monchique, we will visit Caldas de Monchique, the hot springs famous since antiquity for their healing waters and among the most-visited places in the Algarve. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, April 25
**LISBON/ DISEMBARK**
After breakfast aboard, disembark and transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)
A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy in categories E to B at no additional charge. Additional single cabins are available at a supplement of 50% of the per person double occupancy rate, instead of the normal 70% supplement.

**SAVINGS FOR SOLO TRAVELERS**

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>RATES PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401 – 404.</td>
<td>$10,590</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405 – 420.</td>
<td>$10,990</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Suites with balcony &amp; living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501 – 504, 538 – 541.</td>
<td>$11,790</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Suites with balcony &amp; living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505 – 518, 521 – 537.</td>
<td>$12,190</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Suites with balcony &amp; living room area. 300 sq. ft Deck 6. Suites 601 – 618, 621 – 635.</td>
<td>$12,590</td>
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<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom &amp; living room. 474 sq. ft. Decks 5 &amp; 6. Suites 519, 520, 619 &amp; 620.</td>
<td>$13,790</td>
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The rates are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs and no additional charges such as shore excursions or embarkation and port charges. Other than the international airfare and expenses of a personal nature, all else is included. Specifically, the rates include:

- One night at the deluxe NH Palermo (or similar.)
- Welcome dinner in Palermo, and lunch on the day of embarkation.
- Cruise aboard the Diana, as described in the itinerary.
- Group airport/hotel/pier transfers at designated times, and handling of luggage.
- Lectures and discussions with Wellesley Professors Bryan Burns and Mary Lefkowitz, as well as lectures by Ambassador Richard Erdman.
- Additional lectures by members of the onboard team of experts.
- Complete program of tours and excursions as mentioned in the itinerary including lunch on full day tours with professional English-speaking guides.
- All meals aboard the ship, with a selection of wines, beer and soft drinks during lunch and dinner.
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard the ship hosted by the captain.
- Open bar with select alcoholic beverages.
- Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea and soft drinks throughout the day and night.
- 24-hour room service.
- Gratuities to the ship’s crew, guides, porters and drivers.
- Basic Wi-Fi aboard the ship.
- The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys Trip Director.
- All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
- Complete pre departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.
Join Professor Bryan Burns and Professor Emerita Mary Lefkowitz ’57 on a voyage of discovery to the Ancient Cities of North Africa

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