

Swan Hellenic Discovery Cruises For people with a mind to travel



El Djem, Tunisia



Autumn 2011 cruises aboard *Minerva* – a closer look

Volcanoes of the Mediterranean from **£1,452**

Highlights of the Ancient World from **£1,424**

Castles in the Sand from **£1,519**

Included in your cruise fare

Cruises include a tailor-made shore excursion programme plus all gratuities on board and ashore worth up to £1,250 per couple*

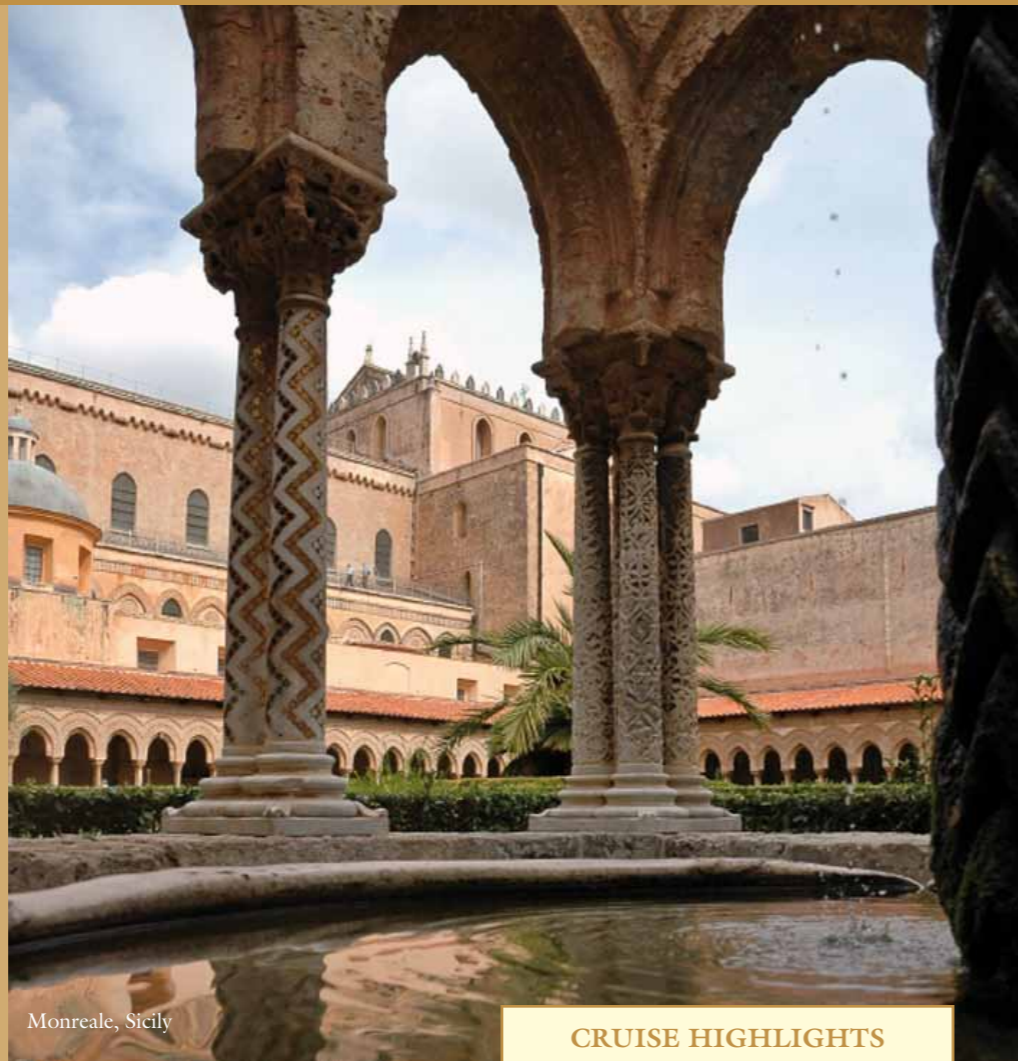


This autumn *Minerva* is set to take you on a spectacular cruise around the ‘Volcanoes of the Mediterranean’, revealing the formidable yet breathtaking natural spectacles synonymous with this region. Having irrevocably transformed landscapes, these volcanoes have changed the face of history and shaken civilisations throughout time. Interwoven with history and philosophy, this remarkable cruise demonstrates why the Mediterranean’s volcanoes have significance far beyond the merely geographical.

Join volcanologist Dr Peter Cattermole, historian, Dr Alan Borg, philosophy expert Professor Keith Ward FBA and ancient historian, Mr Jeremy Paterson who will uncover the stories behind this cruise.



Lipari Island



Monreale, Sicily

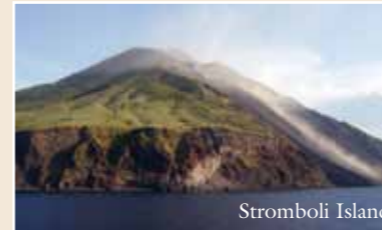


Cable Car, Mt Etna



Mt Vesuvius, Italy

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS
 Corinth Canal Transit - Olympia
 Sicilian exploration - Etna - Vesuvius
 Vulcano - Stromboli
 Valletta Harbour



Stromboli Island

See the volcanoes of the Mediterranean

Dr Peter Cattermole, volcanologist, will be discussing how the volcanoes of the Mediterranean have been pivotal in shaping the region. The visible force of their impact remains for all to see in Sicily, where *Minerva's* first port of call here brings you to Catania. Explore the city, constructed from lava that poured down from Mount Etna in the 1669 eruption or, in the company of Dr Peter Cattermole, ascend Mount Etna by cable car and 4x4 vehicles.

At Naples you can choose to hike up Mount Vesuvius, which looms ominously over the ruined cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum. Mr Jeremy Paterson will be probing further into the fate of the ancient cities at Vesuvius' mercy.

Minerva then takes you southward to Lipari, where an evening close cruise of Stromboli will be lit by the active volcano's glowing red lava. The following morning, waiting to be explored, is the nearby island of Vulcano, to which all other volcanoes owe their etymological heritage.

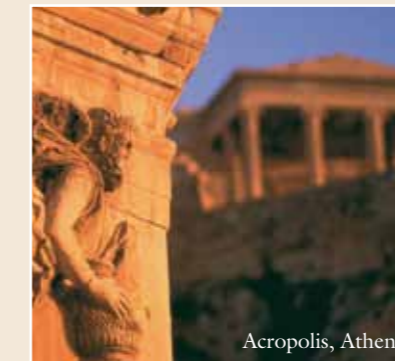
Stunning natural beauty, combined with an eclectic mixture of philosophy and history, promise a cruise as memorable as the volcanoes it visits.

Go on a philosophical journey

On ‘Volcanoes of the Mediterranean’, Swan Hellenic introduces a philosophical nuance to your cruising experience. Follow in Plato's footsteps as you start your journey in his home city of Athens, where the outstanding Acropolis and its accompanying museum set the exceptional tone for the rest of your cruise.

Remembering Plato's legacy will be Professor Keith Ward FBA, whose philosophical talks will include a number of other equally enlightening topics, such as Greek gods and ‘Politics and Philosopher-Kings’. In a particularly interesting twist, which combines philosophy and volcanology, he will be contemplating the merciless force of nature, posing the intriguing question ‘Volcanoes: Is nature cruel?’

From Catania you can also visit Syracuse, a favourite of Plato's and – according to Cicero – Greece's greatest and most beautiful city.



Acropolis, Athens



Corinth Canal, Greece

Learn about the region's history

From Piraeus, *Minerva* makes an early evening transit through the steep-sided Corinth Canal; as the sun sets, marvel at the ease with which she negotiates this staggering feat of engineering. This brings you to the ancient site of Olympia, where Mr Jeremy Paterson's illuminating talk on ‘The real Olympic games’ will bring your experience of this site into the 21st century.

Stopping at four ports in Sicily, this cruise provides ample opportunity to unearth the island's rich cultural and historical legacy; Dr Alan Borg will be discussing the distinctive mark that the Greeks and Normans have left behind.

Visits to La Goulette, Tunisia, and the richest sea port in ancient times, Carthage, are brought to life by Mr Jeremy Paterson with talks on the Punic wars of the ancient world, the Punic remains of Carthage and the Bardo museum.

Finally, *Minerva* sails into the Grand Harbour of Valletta, accompanied by a deck talk from Dr Alan Borg, Librarian of the Order of St John. Here you can explore St John's Co-Cathedral, exquisitely decorated in an array of silver, gold and marble.



Departs	TWIN FARES	No. of days	Inside from	Outside from	Superior from	Deluxe from
14 Oct	VOLCANOES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN Piraeus, Katakolon, Pylos, Catania, Naples, Palermo, Lipari, Trapani, Porto Empedocle, La Goulette, Valletta	15	£1,452pp†	£2,279pp†	£3,951pp	£4,777pp
	SINGLE FARES		£1,815pp†	£3,986pp†	£7,841pp	£9,494pp

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS
 Sail away from Valletta Harbour
 El Djem Ampitheatre - Minoan Palaces
 Pyramids of Giza - Ephesus - Corinth
 Canal Cruise - Acropolis



Rhodes Harbour, Greece



El Djem, Tunisia



Agamemnon's Hilltop Citadel, Mycenae



Pyramids, Egypt



Nauplia, Greece

Discover the highlights of the ancient world

Your adventure begins in Sousse, Tunisia, where an unforgettable visit will take you to El Djem – an absolute ‘must-see’ site for any discerning enthusiast of the ancient world. Mr Chris Bradley will ensure you fully absorb this opportunity to see such rare magnificence.

In Egypt, drive from Alexandria through the desert to see the stunning Pyramids of Giza before visiting the Cairo Museum itself. Again, Mr Chris Bradley will be giving talks relevant to your visit here, while the Rt Revd Tim Stevens will be delving into the development of Egypt's monastic movement.

Reawaken Greek mythology in Nauplia, Greece, with a visit to Agamemnon's hilltop citadel at Mycenae. At Epidaurus see the excellently preserved theatre for which the town is renowned.

Inspired by the theatre's marvellous acoustics and the many thespians that graced its stage in ancient times, you yourself may be tempted into an impromptu recital.

Finally, in Piraeus, the iconic Acropolis awaits. This is certainly a climatic end to a cruise which enthralled from start to finish.

The ancient world in the modern day

New and old come together in an interesting juxtaposition, which adds to the diverse layers of history, unfolded on this cruise.

Alongside its centuries-old history are the current events in this region which continue to grip us all. Prompted by the initial Jasmine Revolution in Tunisia, there has since been a wider wave of uprisings referred to as the ‘Arab Spring’. To bring your understanding of this region up to date, Professor Christopher Andrew will be on board to discuss these most recent developments.

At Knossos, Minoan architecture merges with a partial reconstruction and an authentic imagined setting for the mythical figure of the Minotaur; here ancient and modern meet to envision the palace's former glory and truly bring it to life.

Ancient and contemporary literally stand side by side in Athens, where close to the Acropolis is the extraordinary New Acropolis Museum. Whilst glass panels on the floor reveal recent excavations, a range of objects found from the sanctuaries on the slopes and an exhibit which spans from the Archaic period to the end of the Persian wars are also superbly displayed in the Art museum.



Knossos, Crete



Explore the Swan Hellenic way

Our itineraries are designed for your utmost convenience, and strive at every stage to go beyond the expected, bringing you both well recognised highlights and unanticipated surprises.

Alongside your visit to El Djem in Sousse, we also take you to the nearby museum, where an impressive collection of well-preserved mosaics and a reconstruction of a Roman villa offer another dimension to your experience of ancient Roman life.

Our inclusive full day at Alexandria demonstrates our sheer attention to detail in planning shore excursions. Complete with lunch and comfort stops, and with an expert Egyptian guide, you are afforded the time and insight required to truly appreciate the marvels of Alexandria.

In Ephesus, a guided tour provides an authentic exploration of this incredible ancient city. At the theatre in Epidaurus, Swan Hellenic has specially arranged extended opening times to ensure that this wonderful highlight does not go missed.

Finally, in Greece, you will be accompanied by Swan Hellenic's well-established Greek guides, whose invaluable knowledge serves to deeper enrich your time in their country.

Showcasing the ‘Highlights of the Ancient World’, this late autumn cruise in the Mediterranean certainly doesn't fail to deliver. Taking you to a remarkable four out of the seven former sites of the wonders of the ancient world, you will be treated to the breathtaking Pyramids of Giza and the remains of the Temple of Artemis, and travel to where the enigmatic Lighthouse of Alexandria and the Colossus of Rhodes once stood. In an exciting combination which sees ancient and modern collide, ‘Highlights of the Ancient World’ unites these eponymous sites with the more contemporary landmarks and events which continue to make this region resonate today.

Departs	TWIN FARES	No. of days	Inside from	Outside from	Superior from	Deluxe from
28 Oct	HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD Valletta, Sousse, Heraklion, Alexandria, Rhodes, Kusadasi, Nauplia, Piraeus	14	£1,424pp†	£2,089pp†	£3,700pp	£4,474pp
	SINGLE FARES		£1,779pp†	£3,653pp†	£7,343pp	£8,891pp



Thermessos, Antalya



Cedars in Lebanon

Head to warmer climes aboard *Minerva* on a late autumn cruise to discover some fabulous ‘Castles in the Sand’. Treating you to iconic ancient sites such as the magnificent Acropolis in Athens and the unforgettable Pyramids of Giza, Swan also takes you ‘off the beaten track’ to lesser-known sites such as the clandestine village of Uzuncaburg in Turkey’s Taurus Mountains. Here you will find the remains of a large temple, Roman theatre and colonnaded streets.

Also, in Egypt, a supplementary excursion offers the chance to explore the less familiar monasteries of St Paul and St Anthony. Concealed in the Red Sea Mountains, they are Egypt’s oldest inhabited monasteries. Untouched by modern times, a visit here provides a truly unique insight into Egypt. Uncovering the hidden depths of each destination in this manner, Swan provides the authentic experiences which might otherwise have gone missed. With such an array of superb destinations, this cruise will be a visually stunning and historically rich delight from beginning to end.

CRUISE HIGHLIGHTS

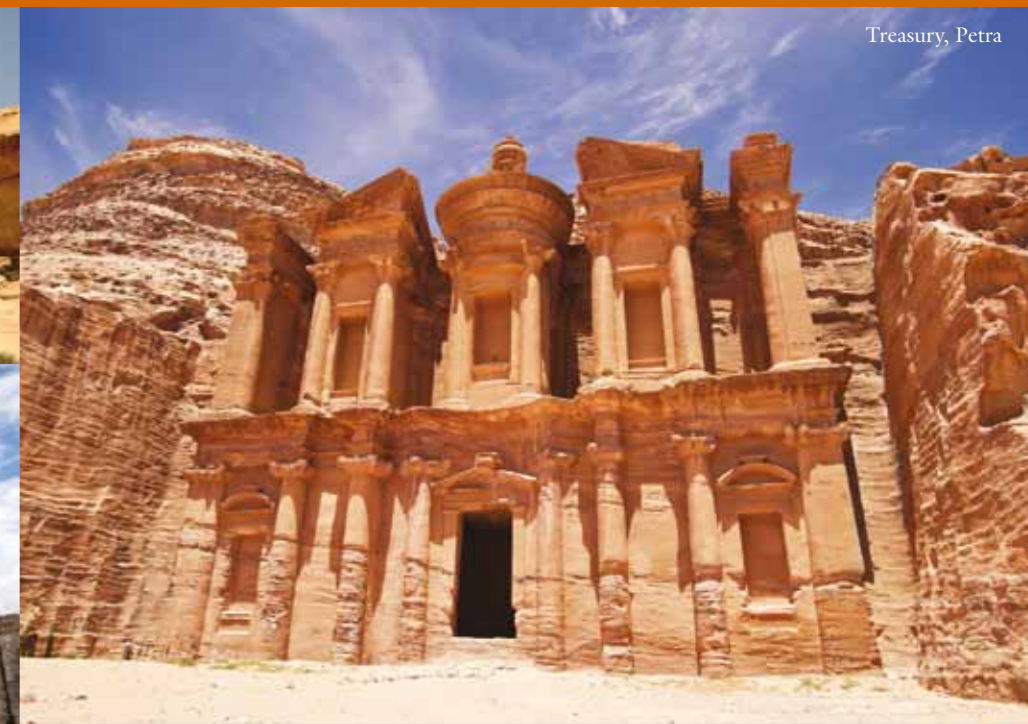
Ephesus - Aspendos - Byblos
Baalbek - Suez Canal Transit
Pyramids - Petra



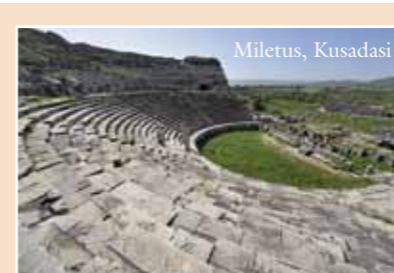
Wadi Rum, Jordan



Bacchus Temple, Lebanon



Treasury, Petra



Miletus, Kusadasi

See spectacular architecture

A theme throughout this cruise is the fascinating architecture you will see along the way. Making a long awaited return to Tripoli, Lebanon, we bring you an intriguing mix of modern and medieval. Here you will discover St Gilles Castle, an architectural fusion of Crusader, Mamluk and Ottoman influences.

Again, in Turkey, an alternative view of this destination awaits at Miletus, the first ‘planned city’. Designed around rectangular grids, it was built by Hippodamus. Credited by Aristotle with having ‘invented the art of planning cities’, he blazed the trail for modern architectural thought. At Miletus, you can see the city which serves as the earliest inspiration for modern day grid systems.

With integrated Guest Speaker talks and a fully inclusive shore excursion programme, you can learn all about the history of the architecture you encounter. Boasting excellent destinations which immerse you in the culture and history of this region, ‘Castles in the Sand’ is a cruise not to be missed this autumn.

Ancient historical sites

In Kusadasi, Turkey, time is seemingly suspended in Ephesus; the East Mediterranean’s best-preserved ancient city, it offers a vivid and dramatic insight into the life of a thriving port city in Roman days. Here the Library of Celsus and the theatre also still remain.

Turkey continues to treat you to fantastic Roman architecture in Antalya, where *Minerva*’s arrival at this Turkish port affords you a visit to Aspendos and its wonderfully preserved amphitheatre.

Finally, north-east of Aqaba lies the ancient city of Petra, the undisputed highlight of the Middle East. With a talk dedicated to this breathtaking site, Professor Robert Hillenbrand ensures you experience Petra in all its glory. Having lain undiscovered by Western eyes for several centuries, it is now reputedly called the eighth wonder of the ancient world; a whole city carved out of the vibrantly coloured rock which gives the ‘Rose red city’ its name.



Temple of Hadrian, Ephesus



The captivating history from ancient to modern

In Turkey, a talk on the modern day from Professor Ian Beckett provides a counterpoint to the history you will see here, while his discussion of the Suez Canal reveals how this extraordinary feat of 19th century engineering has shaped the region. Meanwhile, Professor Carole Hillenbrand will be sharing her knowledge of Muslim women and the Arab Spring.

Enthralling history also awaits you at Aqaba, where Lawrence of Arabia helped lead an attack against the Ottoman Turks who had ruled there. Professor Ian Beckett will be on hand to discuss Lawrence and the legacy he has left behind.

Your adventure through Lebanon not only boasts the rare cedars, on which Canon Andrew Evans will be giving a talk, but also takes you to Beirut, and the idyllic fishing village of Byblos with its Roman remains, Crusader Castle and museum.

The oldest continually inhabited town, this destination offers another historical highlight on a cruise which truly transports you back in time.



Departs	TWIN FARES	No. of days	Inside from	Outside from	Superior from	Deluxe from
10 Nov	CASTLES IN THE SAND Piraeus, Kusadasi, Antalya, Tasucu, Tripoli, Beirut, Port Said, El Sokhna, Aqaba, Sharm el-Sheikh	14	£1,519pp†	£2,374pp†	£3,728pp	£4,507pp
	SINGLE FARES		£1,898pp†	£4,152pp†	£7,400pp	£8,958pp

GUEST SPEAKERS



VOLCANOES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN



DR ALAN BORG CBE FSA started his museum career in the Royal Armouries in the Tower of London, moving in 1978 to become the first Director of the Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts at the University of East Anglia. He was subsequently appointed Director General of the Imperial War Museum, and from 1995 Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum. He is currently Librarian of the Venerable Order of St John and Vice President of the Foundling Museum. His specialist subjects include art, architecture and military history.



DR PETER CATTERMOLE Formerly a lecturer in planetary geology and volcanology at the Universities of Wales and Sheffield, Peter Cattermole has worked with NASA on the volcanoes of Mars, and has worked and travelled widely among the world's volcanic regions. Now a freelance specialist tour guide and lecturer he travels for a living, particularly to regions of geological interest. As an astronomer, he has appeared regularly on BBC TV's 'Sky at Night' and has co-authored books with Patrick Moore.



MR JEREMY PATERSON taught ancient history for nearly 40 years at Newcastle University. He studied at Oxford and in Rome. Although mainly a social and economic historian, his research and publications range widely from the ancient wine trade to early Christianity. He also chairs the 'Minimus' project to introduce Latin widely in primary schools. He has travelled extensively in the Mediterranean, a region on which he frequently lectures.



PROFESSOR KEITH WARD FBA has held lecturer posts in Philosophy at St Andrew's and Philosophy of Religion at King's College London. He was Fellow, Dean and Director of Studies in Philosophy and in Theology at Trinity Hall Cambridge, where he was also Lecturer in Divinity. He was also Professor and Head of Department of History and Philosophy of Religion at the University of London.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ANCIENT WORLD



PROFESSOR CHRISTOPHER ANDREW is Professor of Modern and Contemporary History at Cambridge University, Honorary Professor at Queen's, Belfast, former Visiting Professor at Harvard, Toronto and Canberra, and Honorary Air Commodore. He has presented numerous BBC documentaries. His latest book, *Defence of the Realm*, written as Official Historian of MI5, was last year's 'Politics' best-seller.



MR CHRIS BRADLEY is a NADFAS lecturer specialising in North Africa and the Middle East. He is also a guidebook writer and photographer; his latest books include *The Berlitz Libya Guide 2009* and *Insight Egypt Guide 2008*. He has also worked as a tour leader and guide of specialist art tours to Tunisia and Libya and as a cameraman and TV producer for the National Geographic, BBC and Channel 4.



THE RT REVD TIM STEVENS read Classics and English at Cambridge and worked for BOAC and at the FCO prior to ordination in 1976. He was appointed Bishop of Leicester in June 1999. He is particularly interested in interfaith relationships and in the regeneration issues in cities. He is a member of the House of Lords and the Archbishops' Council of the Church of England and Chairman of the Trustees of The Childrens' Society.



Ephesus, Turkey

CASTLES IN THE SAND



PROFESSOR IAN BECKETT FRHistS is Visiting Professor in Military History at the University of Kent. Previously, he has held chairs in both Britain and the United States. Chairman of the Council of the Army Records Society, he is internationally known for his work on the Great War, the British Army and modern counter insurgency.



PROFESSOR CAROLE HILLENBRAND FBA OBE is Professor Emerita, Islamic History, and former Head of Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Edinburgh. In 2005 she was awarded the King Faisal International Prize in Islamic Studies for her book *The Crusades; Islamic Perspectives*; she is only non-Muslim ever to receive this award. Her latest book, *The Battle of Manzikert* (2007) concerns the history of Turkey.



PROFESSOR ROBERT HILLENBRAND FBA has long-standing research interests in the clash of civilisations, especially between East and West. He is Professor Emeritus of Islamic Art at Edinburgh University. His publications include studies on mosques, palaces and decorative arts in the Middle East, and on the relationship between Byzantium and Islam in the visual arts.



CANON ANDREW EVANS is an honorary Canon of Bristol Cathedral and currently the Team Rector of Bridport in Dorset. He is also a Chaplain for the Royal British Legion and the Royal Naval Association. Before becoming a parish priest Andrew taught for 17 years, finishing his career as a Deputy Head Teacher of an inner city comprehensive. A contemporary historian by training, Andrew is particularly interested in the history of the Royal Navy during the 18th to 20th centuries.

0843 218 9384
www.swanhellenic.com
QUOTE CODE: SWPP59

