



“Underwater Archaeology in Pompeii”. Research and Survey in the singular *Portus Iulius* (Naples, Italy)

1. General Information

The **Sanisera Archaeology Institute for International Field Schools** offers annual programs in archaeology. This course is designed for students from around the world interested in studying abroad, gaining knowledge in Roman cities, classical archaeology and underwater archaeology.

This **underwater archaeology course** consists of studying the submerged archaeological remains of *Portus Iulius* of the *Baia Underwater Park*.

The **Underwater Pompeii** site is located in the bay of Naples and is managed by *Baia Underwater Park*. Underwater surveys show that Roman buildings are about 400 meters away from the present coastline, at a depth of approximately 9 meters. Underwater and aerial surveys have shown numerous submerged archaeological remains. Evidence of the submersion of the coast can be found in the ruins of the **Temple of Venus**, which today is about 3 meters below the quay of the port. Nearby, on the other side of the bay, two monumental complexes were also found: a villa belonging to the Pisoni family and a bath complex with a nymphaeum.

Another submerged archaeological site that participants will study is *Portus Iulius*, a port which sank during Roman times. It was built in 37 B.C. by Agrippa and Octavian, and was abandoned in 12 B.C., merely 25 years after its extremely expensive construction. Later on, it was submerged due to several ground movements –*Bradyseism*– and volcanic activities including Vesuvius.

The coast's unique atmosphere even attracted emperors. For instance, **Caligula** celebrated his elevation to divinity by building a pontoon crossing the area, which he then rode over wearing the armor of Alexander. Emperor **Claudius** often visited Baia. Nero was so fond of this place that he ended up conceiving grandiose projects there, one of them being conveying all spa waters into a large basin intended to link Miseno with the Averno.

In 2006 the *Baia Underwater Archaeological Park* was created, the first of its kind in Italy. Because of this project we can visit these magnificent ancient ruins. The uniqueness of the archaeology in Naples Bay, both on land and underwater, has made this site famous worldwide.

There will be a minimum of 7 immersions focusing on the recognition of structures and archaeological remains in *Portus Iulius* to make a detailed map of the Roman port infrastructure and analyze the spatial distribution of all objects we will find underwater.

Students will also attend lectures on Roman History, Roman Amphoras, Ancients Ports and methods on archaeological survey.

2. What you will learn

In the Fieldwork

- How to survey and which **archaeological techniques** are used.
- Use and handling of the **tools** that are used during the **survey process**.
- **Recording data** obtained during the survey.
- **Study submerged archaeological remains in Baia Underwater Park**
- Practice in the **recognition of structures and archaeological remains in *Portus Iulius*** to make a detailed map of the Roman port infrastructure and analyze the spatial distribution of all objects we will find underwater.

In the Laboratory

- **Recording data obtained during the survey** -diary and systematic methodology sheets-.
- **Study and typological classification of archaeological Roman objects** discovered during the underwater survey.
- **Relative dating** based on the classification of the archaeological objects discovered during the survey.

Theory

- **Underwater Archaeological background** of *Portus Iulius* and *Baiae*
- **Ancient trade** in Sanisera and the Western Mediterranean Sea.
- **Ancient navigation.**
- **Roman Ports**
- **Roman *Horreae***
- History, archaeology, economy and culture of **The *Phlegrean Fields* and *Portus Iulius*.**

3. Directed at

Participating in this course is a unique opportunity. *Portus Iulius* was the quintessential port of Rome in the period of greatest splendor of their empire. We absolutely recommend this program to any college student who wants to enter in the field of underwater archeology.

Portus Iulius is an underwater site with lots of submerged remains for you to be able to recognize Roman architecture and urban planning (walls, floors, rooms, canals, roads ...) and learn how to draw through 8 dives with the help of surveying instruments. They say an image is worth more than a thousand words. You can view it from Google Earth and recognize its wide expanse that is three times higher than Pompeii.

You will also know how to use survey techniques used to record and document all types of archaeological materials displayed on the seabed:

pottery, amphoras, glass, building materials such as marble, stucco reliefs, fragments of sculpture,...

After finishing this course, the training and experience gained will help you to decide if underwater archaeology is the area of research that you wish to focus on or if you want to continue on with underwater archaeology as a future profession. You will have also visited the most iconic and remarkable Roman underwater archaeological sites in the Mediterranean.

Previous knowledge or experience in archaeology or computer systems is not required.

4. Field School life & language

The field school course has a length of 8 days. The course runs six hours per day, and is divided between survey dives, exercises, lectures and excursions. Participants will also visit the Roman ruins of the city of **Pompeii**.

Students receive an intensive introduction on basic aspects of the survey method in underwater archaeology to document archaeological pieces from the seabed of **Portus Iulius**, and learn how to draw the architectural map of the port structure.

The last two days of the program are free days for the students. The course is taught in English, Spanish and Italian.

5. Certificates

At the end of the field program, students will receive a certificate of participation stating the hours and activities of the course.

Participants that perform exceedingly well in the course may receive a letter of recommendation from our organization upon request.

6. Medical check

On the first day of the course, participants have to show a medical document stating that he/she is fit for diving activities. Participants that do not have this document on the first day will not be allowed to participate until they are able to present this document.

7. Sessions & Cost

Sessions	Dates	Cost
Session #1	2019 May 09 – May 16	\$ 1650
Session #2	2019 May 27 – June 03	\$ 1650
Session #3	2019 June 14 – June 21	\$ 1650
Session #4	2019 July 04 – July 11	\$ 1650
Session #5	2019 July 22 – July 29	\$ 1650
Session #6	2019 August 09 – August 16	\$ 1650
Session #7	2019 August 27 – September 03	\$ 1650
Session #8	2019 September 14 – September 21	\$ 1650
Session #9	2019 October 02 – October 09	\$ 1650
Session #10	2019 October 20 – October 27	\$ 1650

Course fee includes:

- Archaeological immersions at *Baia Underwater Park*
- Accommodation in Hotel Arco Felice (Naples Bay)
- Transportation from the Hotel Arco Felice to the diving centre at *Baia Underwater Park*.
- Course tuition.
- Tanks, tank filling and weights.
- Daily transportation to/from the research site.
- Included excursion.
- Walking distance to the historic center, port and beaches.
- In case of needing to process Schengen Visa the mandatory letter of invitation will be written so you can travel and participate in our courses.
- Certificate of participation

Airfare not included from the student home to/from Naples.

During the days in Naples meals are not included (although we will recommend cafés and restaurants that do not exceed the average of 20€/day in meals).

Entry tickets to museums and historical buildings are not included.

8. Spaces Available

The course is limited to **8 participants** per session. Reservations are only effective when payment of the registration fee is received. If for any reason the course is cancelled, payment is returned according to the field school refund policy.

9. Equipment Needed

We encourage participants to bring their own dive gear, however, a complete set of diving equipment (with the exception of mask and snorkel which each participant must bring) can be rented at the reduced cost of 20 Euro per day.

10. Information and Reservations

For more information, contact:

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Web page: www.archaeology.institute