



FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL ALONG THE TURKISH COAST

Aboard the MS *Serenissima*
March 15-25, 2020

Featuring archaeologist MICHAEL HOFF



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

DEAR TRAVELER,

I invite you to **join Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and congenial host Michael Hoff**, a classical archaeologist who specializes in the Roman period in Greece and Asia Minor (modern-day Turkey), for this cruise following St. Paul's route from Cyprus along the coast of Turkey to Istanbul. See and learn about fascinating Greek, Roman, and Byzantine sites and civilizations.

Highlights are many and include:

- the Neolithic settlement of **Choirokoitia** on Cyprus, inhabited from at least the 9th millennium B.C.;
- the 2nd-century Roman theater at **Aspendos**, considered perhaps the best-preserved theater in the Mediterranean;
- the Greek island of **Patmos**, where St. John wrote the Book of Revelation;
- a full day exploring the evocative Lycian Peninsula sites of **Xanthos, Letoon, and Patara**;
- the ruins of **Ephesus**, where St. Paul spent three years when it was second only to Rome in size and importance;
- the ancient Greek site of **Pergamon**, one of Turkey's finest archaeological destinations;
- **Troy**, of *Iliad* fame, with at least nine ancient cities built one on top of another.

Your journey begins with one hotel night in Cyprus to recover from overnight flights and ensure all arrive in time to **embark the newly-refurbished, 53-cabin MS *Serenissima***. Cruise for the next eight nights along the coast of Turkey, and at every port of call enjoy excursion options that cater to various interests and physical abilities. Disembark in **Istanbul**, the gem of the Byzantine and Ottoman world, and either return to the U.S. or participate in a two-night extension in this incredible city that bridges the Eastern and Western worlds and was an imperial capital for nearly 1,600 years! You will also have the option of a three-night, pre-trip extension in Cyprus, including time in Limassol and Paphos.

This program is limited to only 85 travelers and is co-sponsored by other organizations, so I urge you to reserve your cabin today. Call AIA Tours at **(800) 748-6262** or email aia@studytours.org.

Sincerely,



R. Todd Nielsen
Director, AIA Tours

Archaeological Institute of America



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF
AMERICA LECTURER AND HOST

DR. MICHAEL HOFF,



Professor of Art History at the University of Nebraska and former member of the AIA's Board of Trustees, is a classical archaeologist who specializes in the Roman period in Greece and Asia Minor. He has wide excavation experience in Greece and Turkey, including Athens, Corinth, Nemea, Crete, and

for nearly 25 years in the region of Rough Cilicia in southern Turkey, where he has been Project Director for the Antiochia ad Cragum excavations since 2005. In addition to many publications, Professor Hoff has participated for over 20 years in the AIA's national lecture program, and has led many AIA and university-sponsored study tours to Greece and Turkey.

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA AND THE AIA TOURS PROGRAM

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA tour, you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.



OLD STONE ROAD IN XANTHOS
ENTRANCE TO PERGAMON (LEFT)
LIBRARY OF CELSUS, EPHESUS (COVER)

XANTHOS



TERMESOS



PATMOS



EPHESÜS



ASPENDOS



ITINERARY

SUNDAY & MONDAY, MARCH 15 & 16, 2020

Home 🌟 Larnaca, Cyprus

Depart home on international overnight flights to Larnaca, Cyprus, transferring to our hotel upon arrival on March 16th. Enjoy a restful evening at leisure. *Ciao Stelio Deluxe Hotel*

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

Larnaca

After a morning orientation and lecture, drive to the nearby UNESCO-listed Neolithic settlement of Choirokoitia, inhabited from at least the 9th millennium B.C., and considered one of the earliest examples of organized society. Ruins of circular mudbrick and stone dwellings remain, along with collectively constructed fortifications and planned open spaces. After lunch, choose to join either a food tour through downtown Larnaca or an excursion to the Troodos Mountains for wine tasting. Board the *MS Serenissima* this evening and enjoy the Captain's welcome reception and dinner. *MS Serenissima* (BLRD)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

Mersin, Turkey

Call at Mersin, Turkey, a short drive from Tarsus, birthplace of St. Paul. Walk the narrow 16th-century streets and Roman roads, see the artifact-rich Tarsus Museum, and visit the decorative Grand Mosque. Proceed overland to Silifke, stopping along the way at the resort

town of Kizkalesi (Maiden's Castle). Visit the ruins of the 5th-century church of St. Thecla, built at a venerable place of pilgrimage for admirers of this disciple of St. Paul. Rendezvous with the ship at Taşucu and enjoy dinner aboard as we follow the sunset toward the Turquoise Coast. *MS Serenissima* (BLD)

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

Antalya

Arrive in bustling Antalya and join one of two excursions: (1) a full-day tour to the ruins of ancient Perge, a settlement dating back to at least the Bronze Age (visited at least twice by St. Paul and his companion St. Barnabas), and Aspendos, whose 2nd-century theater is one of the best-preserved in the Mediterranean; or (2) a moderate morning hike through the pines to the ancient mountaintop city of Termessos, mentioned in the *Iliad*, and legendarily difficult to defeat (Alexander the Great never could, though Bellerophon managed it by dropping

boulders from Pegasus!), followed by a free afternoon in Antalya.

MS Serenissima (BLD)

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

Fethiye

From our berth at Fethiye we travel southeast to discover the rich Lycian towns of Xanthos (built on a great cliff overlooking the river), Letoon (sanctuary of Leto, and one of the most important religious centers of its time), Patara (amidst sand dunes by the beach), and the ghost village of Kayaköy. You have a choice of three excursions today: (1) spend a full day exploring Xanthos, Letoon, and Patara (where Paul stopped in A.D. 60), including lunch at a local restaurant; (2) visit Xanthos and Patara in the morning and return to the ship for lunch; or (3) wander the streets of Kayaköy, a city with ancient roots but abandoned after World War I, among hundreds of still-standing 18th-century stone dwellings and churches. *MS Serenissima* (BLD)

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

Patmos, Greece

Spend the morning at sea before arriving at Patmos. Of all the Greek islands, Patmos is the most sacred to Christians both Orthodox and Western; it was here that St. John is said to have received the vision that led to the Book of Revelation. Visit the Cave of the Apocalypse, where John lived in exile, had his revelation, and wrote the last book of the Christian Bible. Continue to the village of Chora, known for its glittering white houses and narrow stone streets, and climb to the Monastery of St. John, looming fortress-like over the village. Enjoy an evening at leisure to explore the picturesque town of Skala or enjoy a swim at a nearby beach. *MS Serenissima* (BLD)

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

Kuşadası, Turkey 🌟 Ephesus

Call at the bustling port city of Kuşadası for the short drive to Ephesus. An important port city and trading and intellectual center from archaic to Roman times, Ephesus is one of the more complete ancient sites in the region, where more than 150 years of excavating have revealed broad streets, impressive buildings, intricate mosaics, towering temples, and possibly the largest theater in the ancient world. Today's excursion options are: (1) spend the day exploring Ephesus, including a local lunch and a folkloric demonstration of dance and weaving; (2) tour Ephesus in the morning and return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon at leisure, optionally visiting the scant ruins of the Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World. *MS Serenissima* (BLD)

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Dikili 🌟 Pergamon

Drive from Dikili to the ancient Greek site of Pergamon, once a powerful and thriving cultural center of the region, now one of Turkey's finest archaeological destinations. Ascend by cable car to the acropolis to see the Asclepion, an ancient healing center dating to the 4th century B.C.; the 10,000-seat theater; Temples of Dionysus, Athena, and Trajan; and the foundations of the meticulously planned city. Continue to the modern town of Bergama to visit its archaeological museum before returning to the ship. *MS Serenissima* (BLD)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Çanakkale 🌟 Troy

Excavations at Troy have revealed at least nine cities built one on top of another, reviving debate on the historicity of the Trojan War as described in Homer's epic poem, the *Iliad*. In the morning, visit nearby Alexandria Troas, a major port city in Hellenistic and Roman times, where St. Paul first set sail for Europe—and later brought young Eutychus back to life after he fell asleep during a late-night sermon and fell out of a 3rd-story window! Choices of afternoon excursions are (1) see the site of Troy and its layered ruins that are still being actively excavated, including the nearby museum; (2) cross the Dardanelles by ferry to the site of the Battle of Gallipoli, an infamous defeat of the Allies by Ottoman forces during WWI. Return to the ship for a festive farewell dinner. *MS Serenissima* (BLRD)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Istanbul 🌟 Home

Disembark and transfer to Istanbul Airport for flights back to the U.S. (B)

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

A **pre-tour extension in Cyprus** and a **post-tour extension in Istanbul** will be available. Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.



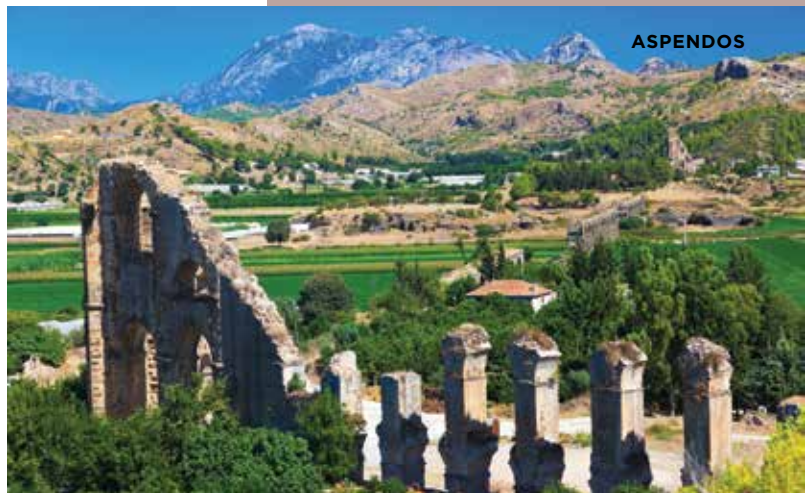
XANTHOS



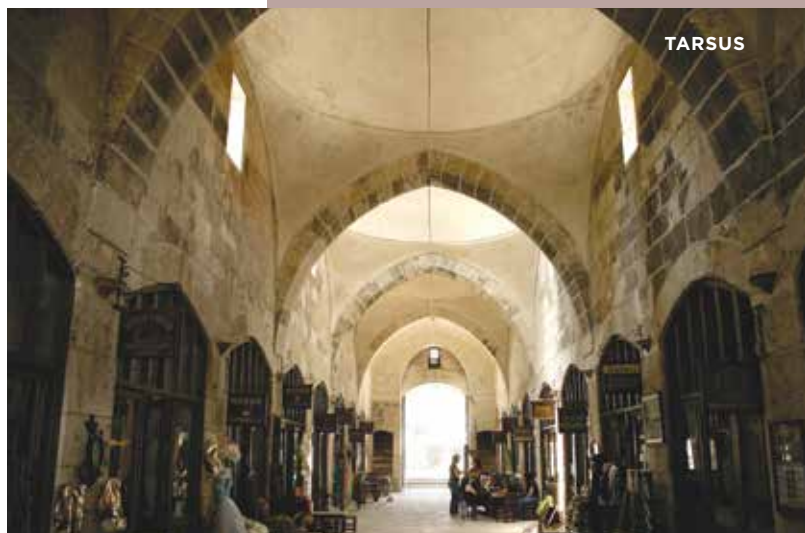
PERGE



CHOIROKOITIA



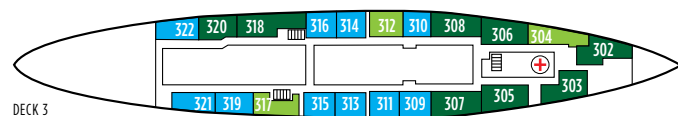
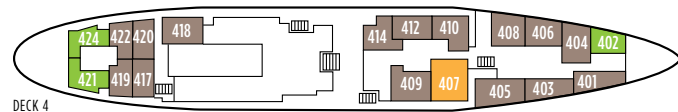
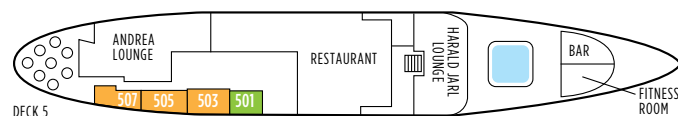
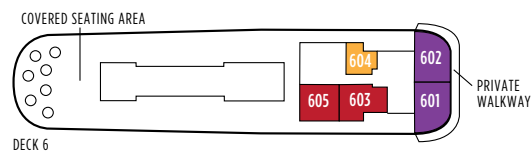
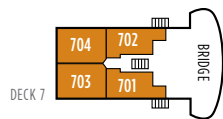
ASPENDOS



TARSUS

MS SERENISSIMA

Refurbished in 2018, the 95-passenger MS *Serenissima* can navigate into small, remote ports inaccessible to larger cruise ships. The public areas on board create a relaxed and spacious atmosphere. The Andrea Lounge provides a comfortable venue for lectures and has an elegant bar, and the Harald Jarl Lounge offers a library and computers. Outside spaces include a massive observation deck for 360-degree views of the passing scenery, and the all-teak Sun Deck is used for meal service in pleasant weather. Guest accommodations are designed for comfort and convenience. All cabins feature ocean views, en-suite bathrooms, and are equipped with many amenities. The Venice Restaurant accommodates all guests in a single seating, with great views through the large picture windows. When possible, local produce is sourced for authentic dining experiences. Complimentary house wines, beer, soft drinks, mineral water, coffee, and tea are included with meals. Complimentary Wi-Fi (intermittent) is available throughout the vessel.



PROGRAM RATES, per person

CATEGORY	DOUBLE	SINGLE
STANDARD STATEROOM : Deck 3 109-144 ft², portholes	\$7,990	—
STANDARD SINGLE : Decks 3, 4, 5 107-127 ft², portholes or windows	—	\$8,990
CLASSIC STATEROOM : Deck 3 152-211 ft², portholes	\$8,990	—
SUPERIOR STATEROOM : Deck 4 116-198 ft², portholes or windows	\$9,490	—
DELUXE STATEROOM : Decks 4, 5, 6 162-274 ft², windows	\$9,990	—
JUNIOR SUITE : Deck 6 225-233 ft², windows	\$10,990	—
OWNER'S SUITE : Deck 6 244 ft², windows	\$11,490	—
SERENISSIMA SUITE : Deck 7 273-284 ft², windows, balcony	\$12,490	—

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary • Full program of briefings, lectures and presentations • Transfers for all participants on group arrival date in Larnaca and group departure transfer by motorcoach from ship to Istanbul Airport • Baggage handling • Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides, drivers, and ship's crew • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell wine receptions during cruise • House wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunches and dinners aboard the ship • Bottled water throughout • Team of expert local guides • Professional tour manager throughout the program

AIR ARRANGEMENTS U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Economy-class airfare from New York to Larnaca with return from Istanbul is approximately \$850 per person as of June 2019 and is subject to change without notice. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at (877) 376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days • Deviations from the scheduled tour • Excess baggage charges • Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted • Gratuities for non-group services • Laundry or dry cleaning • Telephone, fax, internet and email charges • Room service • Other items of a personal nature

WHAT TO EXPECT This is a moderately active, busy program with exceptional options for people of various physical abilities. Excursions are optional, and there will frequently be choices among groups going at different paces. Average highs for March will be 65°F, with relatively chilly evenings, and some rainy days a likely possibility. Excursions can involve standing for extended periods, and up to a mile of walking, often on uneven and/or steep terrain, especially at archaeological sites. Elevators may not be available and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be physically fit, active, in reasonably good health, and able to keep up with the group without assistance from tour staff.

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

GROUP SIZE This program is limited to 85 participants, including travelers from the Archaeological Institute of America and Yale Alumni Association.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS To reserve space, return the completed reservation form with your \$1,000 per person deposit to: Archaeological Institute of America Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main St., Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 or fax to 603-756-2922. Balance of payment is due November 16, 2019. We accept checks, **payable to Criterion Travel**, as well as VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover. Reservations will be processed in order of receipt. By submitting your deposit, you are bound to the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS Upon payment of a deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be effective until they are received in writing and confirmed by AIA Tours. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Cancellations after final payment deadline of November 16, 2019: All payments are 100% non-refundable, regardless of booking date. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. If the program is cancelled by AIA Tours or Criterion Travel, our tour operator, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not participate in any part of the program, who do not complete the tour for whatever reason, or whose documentation for entry into any country on the itinerary is delayed or denied. NOTE: Neither AIA Tours nor Criterion Travel accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by

the purchase of a non-refundable ticket in conjunction with this tour.

HEALTH All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers.

ITINERARY CHANGES The itinerary and study leader presented for this tour are subject to modification and change by AIA Tours and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, AIA Tours and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

RESPONSIBILITY Complete Terms & Conditions will be sent to participants upon confirmation and are available to prospective travelers upon request. As a condition of participation, each passenger will be required to sign a Release of Liability, which will be sent along with the Terms & Conditions.

California Seller of Travel Program
CST #2088800-40

PHOTOS (from Dreamstime.com) Library of Celsus at Ephesus © Roman Czupryniak • Temple of Trajan at Acropolis of Pergamon © Jasmina • Old stone road at Xanthos © Oleksiy Tsiper • Entrance to theater at Xanthos © Valery Shanin • Theater at Termessos © Serhiy Kolotusha • Church bells in Patmos © Ivan Mateev • Statue at Ephesus © Coplandj • Archways at Aspendos © Nikolai Sorokin • Sanctuary of Leto goddess at Xanthos © Olena Rublenko • Detail at Perge © Lev Levin • Choirkokitia © Debu55y Aqueduct at Aspendos © Nikolai Sorokin • Tarasus © Jokerproproduction • Theater in Pergamon © Waj11



FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL ALONG THE TURKISH COAST

Aboard the MS *Serenissima*
March 15–25, 2020

To reserve your space, please complete this form and send it to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938; Deposit checks should be made **payable to Criterion Travel**. You may also call AIA Tours at **800-748-6262**; Fax: **603-756-2922**. Email: aia@studytours.org. Website: www.aiatours.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION (PLEASE PRINT)

NAME 1 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT)		DATE OF BIRTH
NAME 2 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT)		DATE OF BIRTH
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
HOME PHONE		
MOBILE PHONE		
E-MAIL 1		E-MAIL 2

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? ☐ Yes,

PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person, made payable to Criterion Travel) for _____ place(s) on the *Footsteps of St. Paul* program, or

☐ Please charge my deposit of \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person) to my ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover

NAME ON CREDIT CARD		
CREDIT CARD NUMBER	EXP. DATE	SECURITY CODE
SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD		DATE

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1ST CHOICE	2ND CHOICE
Bed preference (not guaranteed): ☐ Two Beds ☐ One bed	

SINGLE TRAVELERS (CHOOSE ONE)

☐ I prefer to have single accommodations (limited availability).
☐ I plan to share accommodations with

☐ I would like to know about roommates. I am a ☐ smoker ☐ non-smoker.

I understand that if a roommate cannot be located for me by the final payment date of November 16, 2019, I will remain in a Standard Single cabin.

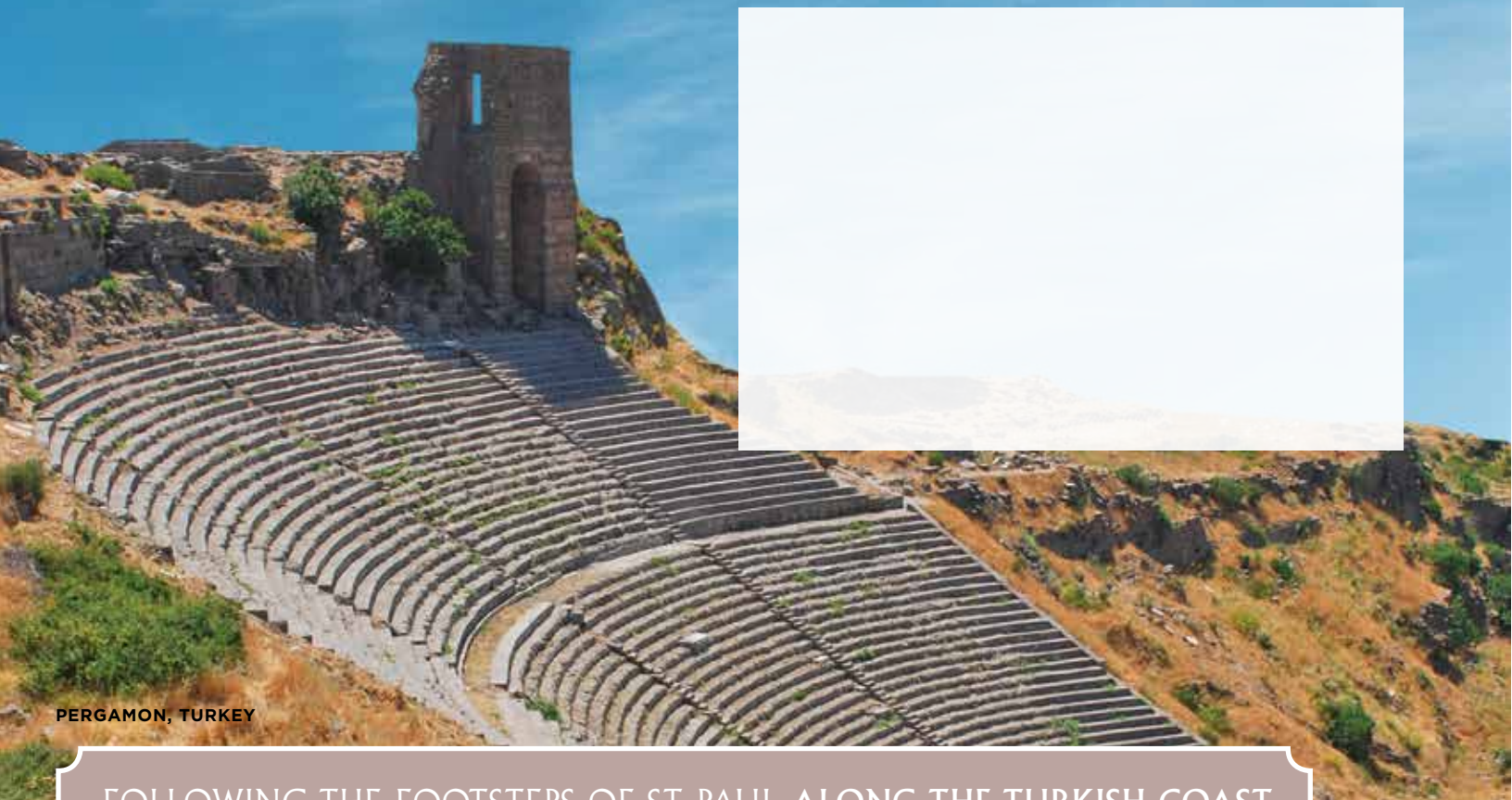
☐ I/We have read the Terms and Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein.

SIGNATURE	DATE
SIGNATURE	DATE



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PERGAMON, TURKEY

FOLLOWING THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL ALONG THE TURKISH COAST

Aboard the MS *Serenissima* • March 15–25, 2020 • Featuring archaeologist MICHAEL HOFF

Visit the **UNESCO NEOLITHIC SETTLEMENT OF CHOIROKOITIA**, inhabited from the 9th millennium B.C., and one of the most important prehistoric sites in the eastern Mediterranean.

Sample **CYPRUS' RICH CULINARY TRADITION** during a food tour through the streets of Larnaca, Cyprus' oldest city, or winetasting among the vineyards dotting the Troodos Mountains.

Walk through the narrow streets of Tarsus, **BIRTHPLACE OF ST. PAUL**, and visit the fantastic Tarsus Museum, boasting a wealth of relics from the Gözlükule excavations.

Take in the **BEAUTY OF ASPENDOS**, whose theater, built in the 2nd century, is one of the best-preserved in the Mediterranean.

Marvel at the beauty of the rich **LYCIAN TOWN OF XANTHOS**, built on a great cliff overlooking a river and boasting several significant ruins including the Nereid Monument, whose figure friezes are in the British Museum.

Spend the day at the **GREEK ISLAND OF PATMOS**, sacred to Christians as the site where St. John received his revelation, and climb to the Monastery of St. John.

Travel by cable car to the **PERGAMON ACROPOLIS**, one of Turkey's finest archaeological sites, and explore the remains of the citadel, the Zeus Altar, and the Royal Palace.

Wander the **ANCIENT STREETS OF EPHESUS**, where the Greco-Roman world comes alive at Europe's most complete classical metropolis, and where Paul preached on his second missionary journey.

Walk among the incredible **RUINS OF TROY** and the large **UNEXCAVATED SITE OF ALEXANDRIA TROAS**, where Paul stayed before sailing with Barnabas to Neapolis.

Enjoy the flexibility of **OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS AND WALKS FOR ALL LEVELS** whenever possible, so travelers can pursue individual interests and sights at their own pace.