



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

EXPLORE

The finest learning adventures.

*"We had very high expectations for
[our] trip and [they were] more
than exceeded in every respect."*

- Mitchell, California



Yucatán, Mexico

SCHEDULE OF TOURS
FROM SEPTEMBER 2025

Archaeology-focused tours, for all levels of interest.



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As travelers and adventurers, we believe it is up to all of us to protect the destinations we care about and depend on. That is why we have taken our commitment to sustainable tourism to the next level by becoming a member of Sustainable Travel International. For more information, visit our website at aiatours.org.

Additionally, we no longer print and mail all our brochures in bulk. To receive detailed brochures, call or email us, go online to download them, or fill in the brochure request form found on our website to have them emailed/mailed to you.

TRAVEL & LEARN

Travel with a scholar: archaeologist, paleoanthropologist, art or architectural historian, and more. Throughout your tour, enjoy fascinating lectures, impromptu discussions, and often special access.

"It was one of the best organized trips I have ever been on...the AIA archaeologist was amazing... I would recommend AIA [Tours] to anyone."

- Linda, Connecticut

"I instantly felt confident about my choice for this trip and our AIA lecturer's ability and professionalism...very knowledgeable and experienced."

- Debra, California

"I didn't expect an archaeologist who was not only an expert in his subject but would provide so many additional 'perks.' Instead of listening to a dry academic, our lecturer was informative and entertaining with a sense of wonder, humor, [and] insight."

- Helen, New York

2025 TOURS

Customized
itineraries to a
wide variety of
destinations

Engaging leaders

Small groups

Fascinating sites

Travel, support &
learn with the AIA

Exquisitely planned & inclusive, with expert service:

Our customized, archaeologically focused land tours often feature special meetings and access. Each itinerary is thoughtfully designed to provide meaningful cultural engagement, enriched by the knowledge and insight of experts.

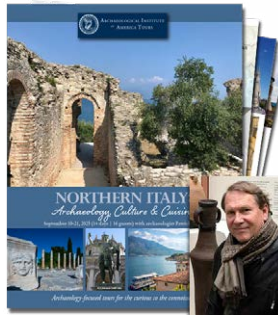
"Small group educational travel, at its finest." - Marjorie, Illinois



Ireland's Wild Atlantic Way & Northern Ireland

September 1-14, 2025 (14 days | 12 guests)
with archaeologist & geologist Stephen Mandal

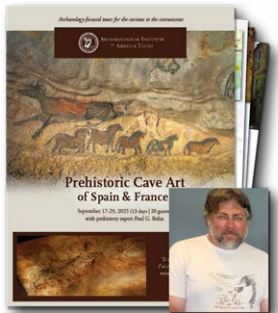
Explore archaeological sites from earliest prehistory to the Iron Age (Celtic Period), through early Christian sites to the later medieval period and Ireland's more recent history. See several different types of prehistoric tombs, medieval castles, and fortresses, all amidst breathtaking landscapes. Highlights include the Aran Islands, Ballinubber Abbey, Céide Fields, the Giant's Causeway, Sligo, Derry, Carlingford, Belfast, and more.



Northern Italy: Archaeology, Culture & Cuisine*

September 10-21, 2025 (12 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist Patrick Hunt

Traverse northern Italy from Milan to Verona and Trieste, with the Italian Alps and Lakes as your backdrop. Enjoy the great diversity of architecture, traditions, and gastronomy. Stop at the site of Hannibal's first major victory in Italy; visit Roman villas at Sirmione, Desenzano, and Brescia; and see Valcamonica's prehistoric petroglyphs, prehistoric pile dwellings, and Roman and early Christian Aquileia. Enjoy delicious cuisine at an ideal touring pace.



Prehistoric Cave Art of Spain & France*

September 17-29, 2025 (13 days | 20 guests)
with prehistory expert Paul G. Bahn

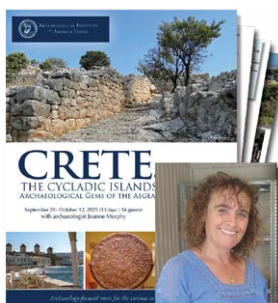
See the most famous prehistoric cave art in the world, including Altamira II, Lascaux IV, Niaux, Pech Merle, Cougnac, Rouffignac, Font-de-Gaume, and Cueva del Castillo. Experience the cultures of Spain and France with visits to charming medieval villages and cities, including Santillana del Mar and San Sebastián, savoring local foods and wines, and enjoying excellent accommodations at fine hotels and charming inns.



Croatia & Slovenia: Ancient Treasures along the Dalmatian Coast

September 20-30, 2025 (11 days | 15 guests)
with archaeologist Ivančica (Vanča) Schrunck

This unique archaeological and cultural tour begins in Ljubljana, Slovenia, which is surrounded by the high peaks of the Julian Alps. As we continue south, along the Croatian coast, experience the varied scenery of these extraordinary countries: rich meadowlands, impressive mountain ranges, and the dramatic coastline. Throughout, our focus will be on the rich archaeology and history from ancient times to the modern day.



Crete & the Cycladic Islands: Archaeological Gems of the Aegean*

September 28 - October 12, 2025 (15 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist Joanne Murphy

Step back in time on the island of Crete, the center of the Minoan civilization during the Bronze Age, as well as on the nearby Cycladic Islands of Santorini, Mykonos, and Delos. Marvel at the physical evidence of this first advanced civilization in Europe, which created palace complexes, stunning works of art, and an extensive trade network. Stay in comfortable, conveniently located hotels perfect for exploring or just relaxing.

* = Repeating in 2026

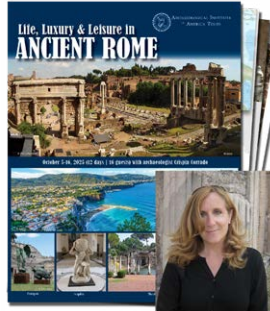
 = This tour requires an elevated level of fitness

Small groups & superior leader-to-guest ratio:

Most AIA land tours have a maximum of just 12 to 16 guests, plus your engaging AIA lecturer/host and a professional tour manager/guide.

"Hands down this was the best organized tour I have taken. The leaders were a joy to be with and our group were the nicest and most inclusive people I have had the pleasure to travel with."

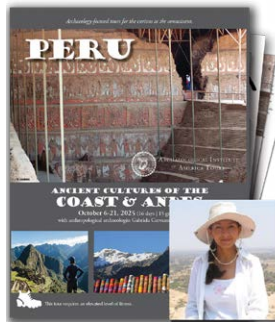
- Sandra, Virginia



Life, Luxury & Leisure in Ancient Rome*

October 5-16, 2025 (12 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist Crispin (Cris) Corrado

Immerse yourself in the grandeur of ancient Rome while uncovering secrets of its daily life, traveling from Rome to Naples and Sorrento. Visit Rome's House of Augustus, Baths of Caracalla, Pantheon, and more. Marvel at the opulent Hadrian's Villa in Tivoli and at the ruins of Pompeii and Herculaneum. See the submerged ruins of the coastal resort of Baiae on a boat excursion, and Cuma Archaeological Park with its Cave of the Sibyl.



Peru: Ancient Cultures of the Coast & Andes* 🇵🇪

October 6-21, 2025 (16 days | 15 guests)
with cultural anthropologist/archaeologist Gabriela Cervantes-Quequezana

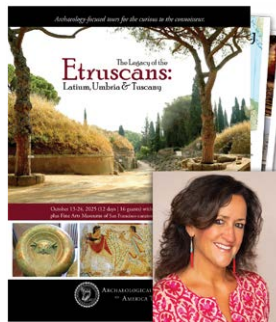
Experience the best of ancient Peru, with the convenience of spending three nights each in Chiclayo, the Sacred Valley, and Cuzco. Explore fabulous archaeological sites (including two visits to Machu Picchu); visits to three other UNESCO World Heritage Sites; and a variety of museums, picturesque villages, and cities.



Türkiye: From Göbekli Tepe to Mount Nemrut & the Tigris River*

October 7-21, 2025 (15 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist Tevfik Emre Şerifoğlu

See the world's earliest monumental temples dating back over 10,000 years. Marvel at exquisite and enormous mosaics at the world's largest mosaic museum. See diverse architecture from beehive-style mud houses to rock tombs, and early monasteries to mosques. Gaze at 8,000-year-old gardens along the Tigris River plus giant Hellenistic sculptures atop a mountain.



The Legacy of the Etruscans: Latium, Umbria & Tuscany*

October 13-24, 2025 (12 days | 16 guests)
with archaeologist Lisa Pieraccini

Explore the realm of the ancient Etruscans, a pre-Roman civilization that flourished between the Tiber and Arno Rivers in what is now Tuscany. Visit their necropolises, whose tombs feature brightly painted scenes of feasting and dancing, such as Cerveteri and Tarquinia, and important Etruscan towns such as Volterra and Orvieto.

The 2025 departure is co-sponsored by the Ancient Art Council of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.



Southern Peru: Nazca Lines, Colca Canyon & Lake Titicaca

October 24 - November 7, 2025 (15 days | 15 guests)
with cultural anthropologist/archaeologist Gabriela Cervantes-Quequezana

Travel far off the tourist route exploring coastal and Andean landscapes and cultures, visiting several UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Visit ancient Pachacamac, Paracas National Reserve, Cantalloc Aqueducts, Colca Canyon, Lake Titicaca, and the Sillustani funerary towers; and fly over the Nazca Lines. Discover several museums containing famous mummies, distinctive pottery, musical instruments, and much more.

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2026 TOURS

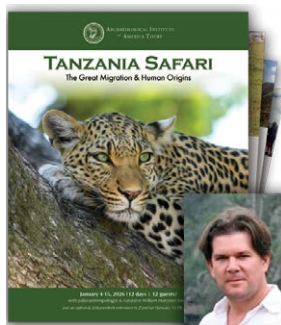
More than 30 years of experience:

Trust our extensive experience in international tour planning and travel management, and our proven dedication to our travelers, all while supporting the Archaeological Institute of America.

"I loved every aspect of the tour. The ease of every day, not having to make any arrangements ourselves. Every detail was well planned."

- Nancy, California

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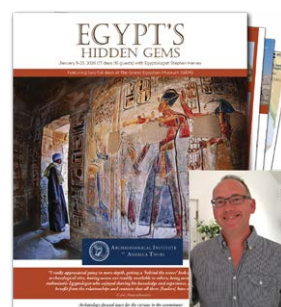


Tanzania Safari: The Great Migration & Human Origins

January 4-15, 2026 (12 days | 12 guests)

with paleoanthropologist William Harcourt-Smith

Explore world-renowned human origin fossil sites plus experience Tanzania's Great Wildebeest Migration at its peak calving season. Enjoy expertly guided safari drives in spacious four-seater vehicles and luxurious tented camps. Visit the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Lake Natron, and Oldupai Gorge. Experience breathtaking landscapes, abundant wildlife, and exclusive, small-group access to firsthand insights into the story of human origins.



Egypt's Hidden Gems

January 9-25, 2026 (17 days | 16 guests)

with Egyptologist Stephen Harvey

Spend two days at the new Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM). Go behind-the-scenes at the ancient necropolis of Saqqara; see the Red and Collapsed Pyramids, and the necropoli of Beni Hasan and Tuna el-Gebel; visit Tell el-Amarna; and make two visits to Abydos, where your lecturer has worked. Also explore lesser-visited sites in Luxor, including the Ramesseum and Medinet Habu.

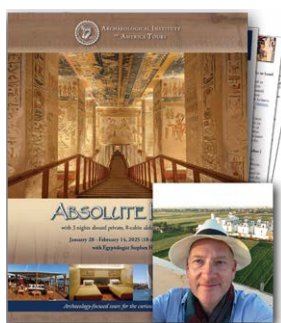


Maya Pyramids & Temples of Yucatán

January 17-25, 2026 (9 days | 12 guests)

with Mayanist Jeff Karl Kowalski

Explore the sun-drenched Yucatán peninsula's ancient sites, traditional Maya villages, and colonial architecture on this well-paced tour. Maya art and architecture abound, with visits to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Chichén Itzá and Uxmal, plus Ek Balam, Dzibilchaltun, and more: iconic as well as off-the-beaten-path sites with soaring pyramids, distinctive temple complexes, and wonderful sculpture.



Absolute Egypt

January 27 - February 14, 2026 (19 days | 16 guests) AND

February 17 - March 7, 2026 (19 days | 16 guests)

with Egyptologist Stephen Harvey

This thoughtfully designed itinerary is longer than most, allowing for a well-paced and immersive experience. Enjoy two visits to the new Grand Egyptian Museum (GEM), and explore all the major sites of ancient Egypt, from Cairo to Luxor and Aswan. Cruise the Nile aboard a private, eight-cabin sailboat. When possible, special behind-the-scenes visits are also arranged.



Jungle Kingdoms of the Ancient Maya

February 12-25, 2026 (14 days | 16 guests)

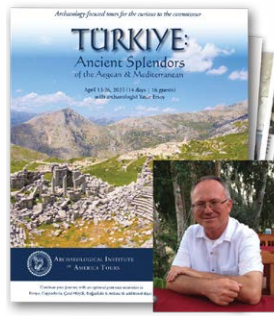
with Mayanist Ben Thomas

Join us on this tropical winter getaway for the most comprehensive and best-paced exploration of the ancient Maya world. Marvel at stucco friezes, towering pyramids, and painted frescoes exploring iconic sites in Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras, and experience Maya civilization through the dual lenses of architectural history and archaeology.

This tour is co-sponsored by the Society of Architectural Historians.

"This trip was more than just sightseeing; it was an adventure filled with wonder, awe, and unforgettable moments. We're still pinching ourselves!"

- Jeffrey, California

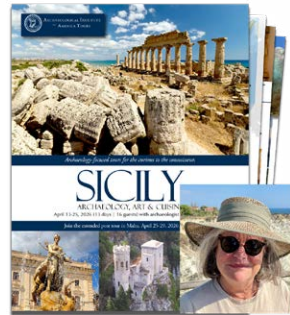


Türkiye: Ancient Splendors of the Aegean & Mediterranean

April 12-25, 2026 (14 days | 16 guests)

with archaeologist Yaşar Ersoy

Marvel at many of the world's most magnificent Greco-Roman temples, theaters, and stadiums, visiting Ephesus, Priene, Miletus, Didyma, Aphrodisias, Sagalassos, Perge, and Aspendos. Three full days in Istanbul include all of the major highlights. An optional, post-tour extension features the Neolithic settlement of Çatalhöyük, the Hittite capital of Hattusa, and the Cappadocia region.



Sicily: Archaeology, Art & Cuisine

April 13-25, 2026 (13 days | 16 guests)

with archaeologist Jenifer Neils

Explore the wonders of Sicily, from the awe-inspiring ruins of Agrigento and Selinunte to the dazzling Norman splendor of Monreale Cathedral and Palermo's Royal Palace. Soak in sun-drenched vineyards and stunning sea views, and dive into world-class museums—plus, an optional post-tour extension to Malta reveals breathtaking prehistoric monuments.

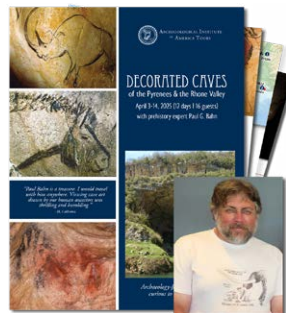


Greece's Temples, Theaters & Sacred Landscapes: An Archaeological Exploration

April 13-26, 2026 (12 days | 16 guests)

with archaeologist Kathleen Lynch

Travel alongside your expert archaeologist while you explore ancient cities, marvel at iconic temples and theaters, descend into royal tombs, and stand where philosophers taught and oracles spoke. From Athens to the Peloponnese and Macedonia, uncover Greece's archaeological treasures and gain a deeper understanding of its remarkable cultural and historical legacy.

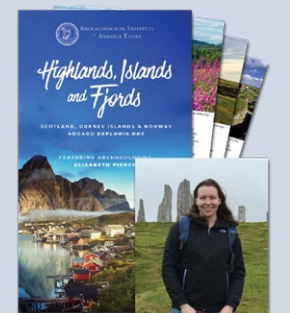


Decorated Caves of the Pyrenees & the Rhone Valley

May 23 - June 2, 2026 (11 days | 16 guests)

with prehistory expert Paul G. Bahn

Discover for yourself a collection of magnificent examples of Ice Age art while in the company of our acclaimed prehistoric cave expert and popular AIA tour leader, Dr. Bahn. Highlights include the original decorated caves of Isturitz and Oxocelhaya, Niaux, and Gargas. Also visit the spectacular Chauvet cave replica at Vallon-Pont-d'Arc and the recently opened Cosquer Méditerranée. Enjoy fine food and delightful accommodations.



Highlands, Islands & Fjords: Scotland, Orkney Islands & Norway

May 30 - June 9, 2026 (11 days) aboard the 72-cabin *Exploris One*

with archaeologist Elizabeth Pierce

Cruise from Inverness, Scotland, along the Norwegian coast and fjords to the Lofoten Islands. Visit ancient settlements, remote islands, and villages amid magnificent landscapes. Visit the Neolithic Ring of Brodgar and the village of Skara Brae, the 12th-century Hopperstad Stave Church, the pagan Moahaugane Burial Mounds, Sognefjord, Nærøfjord, and more. Optional extensions in Edinburgh and the Scottish Highlands, and/or in Oslo, are available.



Hiking Scotland's Orkney & Shetland Islands

June 29 - July 9, 2026 (11 days | 15 guests)

with archaeologist Val Turner

Explore Scotland's Northern Isles: prehistoric stone circles, burial chambers, and settlements; quaint villages; huge seabird colonies; and remarkable plant life—all amidst dramatic landscapes. This will be Scotland seen slowly, with time for in-depth exploration at each site. The Orkney and Shetland islands have an amazing wealth of archaeological sites dating back 5,000 years.

Printed brochures,
questions & reservations:
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IN THE PLANNING STAGES



The Silk Road: Empires of Central Asia

May 23 - June 13, 2026 (22 days) with archaeologist Alexander Nagel

Journey through Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan tracing the ancient Silk Road across vast deserts, mountains, and plains. Highlights include the archaeological sites of Anau, Gonur-Depe, Paikent, and Afrosiab; as well as nine UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Merv, Nisa, Kunya Urgench, old Khiva, Desert Castles of Ancient Khorezm, Bukhara, Shahrisabz, Samarkand, and Sarazm (Tajikistan's first UNESCO World Heritage Site). Visit a total of five 'Stans with a post-tour extension to Kazakhstan.



Landscapes & Seascapes: From Carnac to Stonehenge

May 24 - June 4, 2026 (12 days) with archaeologist Peter Bogucki

Journey through the dramatic coastlines of Brittany and the rolling green hills of Wessex to discover Europe's most iconic prehistoric landscapes. Explore awe-inspiring Neolithic and Bronze Age monuments—from the mysterious standing stones of Carnac to the legendary circle at Stonehenge—alongside hidden gems and lesser-known megalithic marvels, all set amid breathtaking natural scenery.



Roman Britain: Romans at the Edge of Empire

June 2026 (13 days) with AIA lecturer TBA

Travel in the footsteps of the ancient Romans as you venture north from Chester, England, to Edinburgh, Scotland, with a foray along Hadrian's Wall at the northwest frontier of the Roman Empire. Experience the natural beauty of old medieval towns, verdant countryside, and the scenic Lake District; and see the remains of formerly vibrant Roman forts and towns, and ancient Rome's influence on the Britain of today.



Prehistoric Ireland: A Journey through Time & Terrain

August 2026 with archaeologist & geologist Stephen Mandal

Discover prehistoric Ireland with an expert archaeologist-geologist as your guide. Explore ancient megalithic tombs, Neolithic monuments, and rugged coastal landscapes shaped by geological forces. Gain insight into early human activity, cultural development, and the dramatic natural history that shaped the island's earliest civilization.



Circumnavigating the Peloponnese by Private Luxury Yacht

September 17-26, 2026 (10 days) aboard the 50-cabin *Emerald Azzurra* with archaeologists Jack Davis and Shari Stocker

Embark on a seven-night cruise around the Peloponnese, including a transit of the Corinth Canal. Marvel at the peninsula's natural beauty, and five UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Mycenae, Epidaurus, Mystras, Olympia, and Delphi. Enjoy a special visit to Nestor's Palace at Pylos, where your lecturers have worked. Optional extensions in Athens and in the Aegean Islands are available.



Tunisia: Phoenicians to Romans, Mosaics to Mosques

October 2026 (13 days) with archaeologist Nejib ben Lazreg

Visit seven of Tunisia's UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including fabled Carthage, Dougga, Kairouan, and El Djem. Other highlights include Bulla Regia's underground Roman villas, the Roman city of Sbeitla (Sufetula), Thuburbo Majus's sunken winter baths, and the Bardo Museum with its renowned mosaics.

AND MANY MORE....



The AIA & AIA Tours

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.



aiatours.org

Tours listed throughout this schedule may be full and have a waiting list, and others may still be in the planning stages with details not yet available. Please call for availability. Upon request, you will be added to a list of those to be notified when the tour becomes available. **For a listing of all tours or to reserve your space, please go to AIATours.org**



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AIA TOURS SCHEDULE FROM SEPTEMBER 2025



Ireland



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS



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AIA TOURS SCHEDULE
FROM SEPTEMBER 2025

EXPLORE

Crete

Archaeology-focused tours, for all levels of interest