Following the Footsteps of St. Paul along the Turkish Coast aboard the MS Serenissima

March 15–25, 2020

Stephen Davis
Professor of Religious Studies and of History
Dear Yale Traveler,

It is sometimes said that if there were no St. Paul there would have been no Christianity. Through his three missionary journeys, from around A.D. 44 to 60, the Christian message was spread to the classical world and some of the earliest Christian churches were founded.

Travel with Yale starting in Cyprus to follow Paul’s footsteps along the coast of Turkey to Istanbul. Cruise for eight days and visit stunning ancient sites along the way reflecting not only Paul’s legacy but also elements of Greek, Roman, and Byzantine civilizations. 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 of this incredible city.

Stephen Davis, Yale Professor of Religious Studies and of History will offer lectures related to Paul and the geography we will be traversing. Topics will be an introductory lecture on his life, travels and writing followed by topical lectures related to the sites visited.

Home for this delightful voyage will be the M.S. Serenissima, a ship that accommodates only 95 travelers. Yale will share this program with travelers from the Archeology Institute of America who will have as their lecturer, Professor Michael Hoff.

To hold your space, please call 203-432-1952 or register at www.yaleedtravel.org/turkey20.

All the best from Yale,

Lauren Summers
Senior Director
Lifelong Learning & Travel

yaleedtravel.org/turkey20
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.

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.

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.

Ascend 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.

Yale Study Leader

STEPHEN DAVIS is Professor of Religious Studies, specializing in the history of ancient and medieval Christianity, with a focus on the eastern Mediterranean and the Near East. Since 2013 he has served as Head of Pierson College, and from 2015 to 2018 he also served as Chair of the Council of Heads of College (CHC). His areas of teaching and research include the study of women and gender, pilgrimage and the cult of the saints, the history of biblical interpretation and canon formation, Egyptian Christianity, Arabic Christianity and its relation to Islam, early Christian art and material culture, and the application of archaeological, anthropological, sociological, and literary methods in the study of historical texts.

In addition to a number of academic articles, he has authored (or co-authored) the following books and monographs:

- Monasticism: A Very Short Introduction (Oxford UP, 2018);
- Christ Child: Cultural Memories of a Young Jesus (Yale UP, 2014);
- A Disputation over a Fragment of the Cross: A Medieval Arabic Text from the History of Christian-Jewish-Muslim Relations in Egypt (co-authored and edited with B. Orfali and S. Noble; Dar al-Machreq, 2012);
- The Arabic Life of St. John the Little (published as a monograph in the journal Coptica, vol. 7, 2008);
- Coptic Christology in Practice: Incarnation and Divine Participation in Late Antique and Medieval Egypt (Oxford UP, 2008);
- The Early Coptic Papacy: The Egyptian Church and Its Leadership in Late Antiquity (American University in Cairo Press, 2004);
- Be Thou There: The Holy Family’s Journey in Egypt (co-authored with W. Lyster and C. Hulsman; American University in Cairo Press, 2001);

Davis’ current research projects demonstrate his interdisciplinary interests in archaeology, textual studies, and social history. Since 2006, he has served as executive director of the Yale Monastic Archaeology Project (YMAP), conducting field work and training graduate students primarily at three sites in Egypt: the Monastery of John the Little in the north; the White Monastery and its federated women’s monastery at Atripe in the south. (For more information, see the Yale in Egypt website at http://egyptology.yale.edu). Davis is also engaged in projects involving the cataloguing, editing, and translation of ancient and medieval texts. He is founder and editor of the series Christian Arabic Texts in Translation (CATT) published by Fordham University Press, and in 2013 he initiated a project to catalogue the collection of Coptic and Arabic manuscripts at the Monastery of the Syrians in Wadi al-Natrun, Egypt. The multi-volume catalogue will be published in the Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium, Subsidia series, by Peeters Press.

Yale Educational Travel • Yale Alumni Association
Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010
Reservations: (203) 432-1952   edtravel@yale.edu

Upcoming Trips

Japan: Basho’s Road to the North
October 11–23, 2019
Edward Kamens ’74, ’82 PhD
Japanese Studies

Cruising the Mekong River aboard the 12-cabin Mekong Princess
November 4–17, 2019
Prof. James Salzman ’85
Environmental Law

Elbe River Cruise aboard Elbe Princesse II
March 31–April 11, 2020
James Hepokoski
Music
Mediteranean Sea

Aegean Sea

MERSIN

TARSUS

ANTALYA

PERGE

ASPENDOS

FETHIYE

XANTHOS

PATARA

XANTHOS

PERGAMON

CANNAKALE

TROY

ISTANBUL

LARNACA

CYPRUS

GREECE

place of pilgrimage for admirers of this disciple of St. Paul. Rendezvous with the ship at Taşcu and enjoy dinner aboard as we follow the sunset toward the Turquoise Coast. MS Serenissima (BLD)

ANTALYA

Thursday, March 19

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. (2) A short 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)

FETHIYE

Friday, March 20

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. Excursion options are: (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. (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)

MERSIN, TURKEY

Wednesday, March 18

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 Kızkalesi (Maiden’s Castle). Visit the ruins of the 5th-century church of St. Thecla, built at a venerable

The theater at Aspendos was built in the 2nd century and is one of the best-preserved in the Mediterranean.

KUŞADAŞI / EPHESUS

Sunday, March 22

Call at the bustling port city of Kusadasi 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 ruins of the Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Ancient Wonders of the World.

MS Serenissima (BLD)

DIKILI / Pergamon
Monday, March 23
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)

ÇANAKKALE / TROY
Tuesday, March 24
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 WW1. Return to the ship for a festive farewell dinner.

MS Serenissima (BLD)

ISTANBUL / HOME
Wednesday, March 25
Disembark and transfer to Istanbul Airport for flights back to the U.S. (B)

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Reserve Your Trip Today
Book online: yaleedtravel.org/turkey20
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. Wi-Fi (intermittent) is available throughout the vessel.

### Program Rates, per person *(including VAT and taxes)*

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<th>CATEGORY/DECK</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
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<tr>
<td>STANDARD STATEROOM: DECK 3 / 109–144 ft², portholes</td>
<td>$7,990</td>
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<td>STANDARD SINGLE: DECKS 3, 4, 5</td>
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<td>107–127 ft², portholes or windows</td>
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<td>CLASSIC STATEROOM: DECK 3 / 152–211 ft², portholes</td>
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<td>SUPERIOR STATEROOM: DECK 4</td>
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<td>116–198 ft², portholes or windows</td>
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<td>DELUXE STATEROOM: DECKS 4, 5, 6 / 162–274 ft², windows</td>
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<td>JUNIOR SUITE: DECK 6 / 225–233 ft², windows</td>
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<td>OWNER’S SUITE: DECK 6 / 244 ft², windows</td>
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<td>SERENISSIMA SUITE: DECK 7 / 273–284 ft², windows, balcony</td>
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**WHAT IS INCLUDED**
- Educational program lectures and discussions with Yale study leader
- 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
- Emergency medical evacuation services

**WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED**
- 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
- Optional excursions or 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

**ITINERARY CHANGES**

The itinerary as presented is subject to modification by Yale Educational Travel and Criterion Travel (the tour operator), should unforeseen world events and conditions require such alterations for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant. Program rates are based upon current taxes, tariffs, fuel prices, currency values, and a minimum number of participants, and are subject to change (e.g., should fuel prices increase). If there are significant changes, we will notify participants in advance of departure.

**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 $1,500 per person as of April 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.
To register, return this form with your deposit of $1,000 per person to YET. Final payment is due November 16, 2019.

1) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

DATE OF BIRTH YALE CONNECTION

PASSPORT ORIGIN RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GUEST

2) NAME AS ON PASSPORT

DATE OF BIRTH YALE CONNECTION

PASSPORT ORIGIN RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER GUEST

Contact Information

ADDRESS

CITY/STATE/ZIP

PRIMARY PHONE SECONDARY PHONE

E-MAIL

To reserve, return the above form with credit card authorization or check payable to “Criterion Travel” to Yale Educational Travel, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010.

Phone: (203) 432-1952. Fax: (203) 432-0587.

Terms and Conditions

RESERVATIONS, DEPOSITS, AND FINAL PAYMENT: To reserve a space on this tour, please mail a deposit of $1,000 per person payable to “CRITERION TRAVEL,” along with the completed reservation form, to: Yale Educational Travel, Association of Yale Alumni, P.O. Box 209010, New Haven, CT 06520-9010 or fax the completed form to (203) 432-0587. Deposits may be charged to a credit card. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt. Final payment is due November 16, 2019.

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS: All cancellations must be in writing to Yale Educational Travel. Refunds, less a cancellation fee of $300 per person, are made if we are notified in writing on or before November 16, 2019. No refunds are made after that date. There are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features.

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 terrain—especially at archaeological sites, where elevators and even stairs may not be available, or 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.

INSURANCE: Yale Educational Travel highly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. If participants purchase trip insurance, and we hope that they do, participants are free to purchase the insurance of their choice. Most travel insurance must be purchased within 7-10 days of paying a deposit in order to include certain provisions including pre-existing conditions.

California Seller of Travel Program
CST #2088800-40
Join a dazzling journey filled with ancient wonders and natural beauty.

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.

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.

Following the **Footsteps of St. Paul**
Along the Turkish Coast

Aboard the **MS Serenissima**

**March 15–25, 2020**