VOYAGE TO THE LANDS OF GODS & HEROES
A SMALL SHIP CRUISE FROM ROME TO ATHENS

Aboard the 26-Cabin Arethusa
July 6 – 17, 2015

SPECIAL FEATURE
Experience the Mediterranean Diet
Dear Traveler,

Early summer is perhaps the most joyful time of the year to cruise the fabled Mediterranean. The days are long, the sunlight is magical, and the sea is inviting. Pivotal to the history and culture of the Mediterranean are Italy, Greece, and the coast of Asia Minor. On this custom-made journey, we will sail these ageless lands aboard the small cruise ship Arethusa, which accommodates just 50 guests. There is simply no better or more enjoyable way to explore the harbors and sites of these ancient shores.

Traversing the deep blue waters of the Aegean, Ionian, and Mediterranean Seas, under a sun-drenched sky with a gentle breeze filling the air, we will experience the beauty of an incomparable seascape, where islands with brilliant white villages sparkle like gems upon the horizon and coastal medieval cities beckon with their ancient walls and monuments. Visiting historic towns and celebrated archaeological sites, we will come to better understand and appreciate the foundations of Western civilization. And throughout this quest for beauty and knowledge, our pace will be leisurely, allowing ample time to pursue independent activities or enjoy the inviting atmosphere aboard Arethusa.

Because we believe the best (and most enjoyable way) to experience a region first-hand is to taste its food and wine, we are offering a unique culinary aspect to this cruise as well. As part of this special program, you will enjoy delicacies in local restaurants, visit with artisanal food producers, and sample wine in the villages where the grapes are grown. An onboard expert will guide you on this gastronomic adventure, giving insight on the Mediterranean palate. Additionally, we will be accompanied by an expert speaker, who will enhance our understanding of the region’s history.

Our ship, the delightful Arethusa, features 50 suites (each with sea views) as well as inviting public areas and fine dining, all fostering a friendly and gracious ambience. If you have ever dreamed of encountering the wonders of Classical antiquity, here is a golden opportunity to do so!

Sincerely,

Margaret M. Betchart
President, Betchart Expeditions Inc.
For AAAS Travels, ACS & Sigma Xi Expeditions

Left: Evocative Pompeii
Cover: Whitewashed homes and churches on stunning Santorini, Greece
CRUISE, LEARN, & BE INSPIRED

On this voyage you will be accompanied by an expert lecturer and local guides who will introduce you to the culture and history of the destinations we visit and the Mediterranean region. Through lectures and informal discussions, they will help provide a context that deepens your understanding and enhances your appreciation of the sites we visit and the things we see.

Jonathan L. Walton is the Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and a professor of religion and society at Harvard Divinity School. He also serves as the Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church. Walton earned his Ph.D. and master of divinity degrees from Princeton Theological Seminary. He served as an assistant professor of religious studies at the University of California, Riverside prior to joining the faculty of Harvard Divinity School. His course offerings address theories of religion, myth and ritual, as well as the intersections of power, ethnicity, and gender in popular culture.

His lecture offerings on the voyage will include In Search of a Superman: God of Steel Myths from Hercules to Kal-El and Pandora’s Forbidden Fruit: Ritual Scapegoating and the “Feminine” in the Ancient World.
**ITINERARY**

**Monday, July 6, 2015**

**FLY FROM USA**

**Tuesday, July 7**

**ROME, Italy | CIVITAVECCHIA | EMBARK**

Arrive in Rome, transfer to Civitavecchia, and embark Arethusa. (D)

**Wednesday, July 8**

**SORRENTO | POMPEII | SORRENTO**

This morning we visit Pompeii, the Roman city both destroyed and preserved by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in A.D. 79. No other place so completely captures life in the ancient Roman Empire. Tour highlights include the Forum, the Temples of Apollo and Jupiter, and the Stabian Baths, the best preserved and most complete in Pompeii. En route to Sorrento, visit a citrus and olive farm that uses equipment and methods dating from the late 18th century. Watch a demonstration of how to prepare mozzarella cheese. (B, L, D)

**Thursday, July 9**

**MESSINA, Sicily | TAORMINA | MESSINA**

Taormina, a picturesque town on the east coast of Sicily, offers stunning views out to sea and the cone of Mount Etna, the largest active volcano in Europe. Visit the Greek theater, with dramatic views of Etna and the Sicilian coastline, and stroll among Taormina’s quaint streets and gardens. In the evening pass between the legendary location of the six-headed monster Scylla, and the treacherous whirlpool Charybdis, today the easily-traversed Strait of Messina. Also visit La Puzzelle farmhouse for a small plate tasting featuring Calabrian specialties. (B, L, D)

**Friday, July 10**

**CROTONE**

Ancient Crotone was one of the most prominent cities of Magna Graecia and home of the Greek philosopher Pythagoras. Visit the impressive Archaeological Museum and then drive to the small town of Santa Severina, dramatically situated on an isolated outcrop of sheer rock, to see the Norman cathedral with its ninth-century baptistery and Carafa Castle. (B, L, D)

**Saturday, July 11**

**ITHACA, Greece**

Ithaca, the legendary home of the hero Odysseus, as portrayed in Homer’s *The Odyssey*, is a stunning island of pristine beaches and verdant forest. Visit the bay of Dexia, Homer’s harbor of Phorkys, where the Phaeacians left Odysseus sleeping on the beach. Admire the Cyclopean Walls (Alalkomenai), a ruined site known locally as Odysseus’s Castle, and stand atop the Plateau of Marathia, where Odysseus’s loyal servant Eumaeus kept his swine. Aboard Arethusa, we’ll enjoy a tasting of local Ithacan cheeses. (B, L, D)

**Sunday, July 12**

**KYPARISSIA | OLYMPIA | KYPARISSIA**

Travel to Olympia, an UNESCO World Heritage site and birthplace of the Olympics, the ancient Sanctuary of Zeus, and a vast site of well-preserved altars, temples, and other ruins. Highlights include the Temples of Hera and Zeus, the Council House, and the Treasuries. The Archaeological Museum houses exquisite sculptures and other artifacts from the site. Enjoy a lunch of local delicacies including tomatoes, feta cheese, olives, sausages, tzatziki, and take part in a special olive oil and wine tasting. (B, L, D)

**Monday, July 13**

**RETHYMNON, Crete | KNOSSSOS or IMBROS GORGE | RETHYMNON**

Arrive in Crete, once home of the Minoans, Europe’s earliest developed civilization. From quaint Rethymnon, travel to Knossos and its fabled Minoan Palace, a maze of frescoed corridors and chambers showing life as it was 4,000 years ago. It is also home to the labyrinth of the legendary Minotaur. Continue to the Heraklion Museum. Alternatively, walk part of the rugged, scenic Imbros Gorge, ending at the coast, near the 14th-century Venetian castle of Frangokastello, for a swim. Then sail along Crete’s northwest coast to Santorini.
The picturesque coastline of Rethymnon on Crete

Tuesday, July 14

SANTORINI

Santorini is one of the Mediterranean’s most spectacular islands. Enjoy a beautiful view of the whitewashed village of Fira, set atop a 1,000-foot-high palisade. Then drive to Akrotiri which, millennia ago, was inhabited by a sophisticated Bronze Age society. In the 2nd millennium B.C., volcanic eruptions shrouded the island in a blanket of pumice and ash, preserving many of Akrotiri’s buildings. The houses here still contain household items, and the narrow streets and broad squares remain much as they did 3,600 years ago. Also visit the Museum of Prehistoric Thera. Eat lunch ashore at a local restaurant, and in the afternoon, enjoy a winery visit. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, July 15

KUSADASI, Turkey | EPHESEUS | KUSADASI

From Kusadasi, travel to Ephesus. Renowned as the center of worship of the mother-goddess Cybele, later known as Artemis, it was also the site where St. Paul addressed the Ephesians. Excavations continue and archaeologists are restoring the Terrace Houses, which offer a glimpse of daily Ephesian life. See the facade of the Library of Celsus, Temple of Hadrian, and the Amphitheater. Pause for a meal at the family-run restaurant Bizim Ev Hanimeli to sample over 30 homemade Turkish specialties made daily from ingredients from the chef’s own garden. (B, L, D)

Thursday, July 16

PIRAEUS, Greece | ATHENS | PIRAEUS

Spend the day in Athens, a city with an incomparably dramatic and influential history. Explore the Acropolis, perhaps the most important ancient monument in the Western world and where our concept of democracy was born over 2,500 years ago. The ruins include the majestic Parthenon and the Erectheion. After lunch at a taverna, visit the stunning Acropolis Museum. (B, L, D)

Friday, July 17

PIRAEUS | DISEMBARK | ATHENS | USA

Disembark and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

EXPLORE THE MEDITERRANEAN DIET

On this unique voyage, we are pleased to feature a program exploring the origins of the much-lauded Mediterranean diet. Immerse yourself in the cuisine of the region through visits to local markets and artisanal food producers. You’ll sample delectable Greek and Italian food and wine in the company of an onboard expert, who will provide insight into the main ingredients of the Mediterranean plate and learn about its role in promoting physical health. Ashore, you will visit places where these foods and wines are produced, including meals ashore at local restaurants in Crete, Santorini, and Athens made with fresh, locally-grown ingredients. Ultimately, this experience will foster a deep appreciation for how food influences our emotional and spiritual health.
**Arethusa**

Arethusa is a small cruise ship whose size and design makes it the perfect vessel for our educational voyage. Built in 2007, this 26-cabin yacht allows us to call at out-of-the-way destinations and dock at small harbors, avoiding the crowds and congestion of larger ports that cater to mega ships.

All spacious cabins enjoy a sea view, and the majority feature private balconies with floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors. All cabins have a private bathroom with shower, flat-screen TV, telephone, safe, mini-refrigerator, and climate control. Cabins on the Upper and Main Decks have two twin beds which are convertible to a double bed; cabins on the Lower Deck have one twin bed. The ample public areas include an elegant dining room that serves all guests in a single open seating, a welcoming lounge and bar affording opportunities for convivial conversation as well as lectures, and a furnished Sun Deck ideal for relaxed observation of the passing shoreline.

Arethusa meets the very latest standards for safety and is equipped with state-of-the-art communications and navigation systems. With a crew-to-passenger ratio of nearly one-to-two, guests are assured the highest standards of professionalism and attentive, personalized service.

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### Cruise & Land Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Rates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Main Deck: Cabins with two round, fixed portholes; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$7,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Main Deck: Cabins with two round, fixed portholes; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$8,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Upper Deck: Cabins have small private balcony with table &amp; chairs; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$9,395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Upper Deck: Cabins have small private balcony with table &amp; chairs; near the stairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$10,295</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Upper Deck: Cabins have small private balcony with table &amp; chairs. 150 - 163 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$11,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>Lower Deck: Single cabins with round, fixed portholes; near the stairs. 120 - 135 sq. ft.</td>
<td>$11,595</td>
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**SINGLE RATE (PER PERSON)**

**Port charges & taxes:** $600 per person (adult or child)
PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

Included
- 10-night cruise aboard the 26-cabin private yacht Arethusa
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard ship
- All meals aboard ship
- Wine, beer, and soft drinks with lunch and dinner aboard ship
- Complete program of tours and excursions
- Enrichment program of lectures and discussions by expert study leader, including culinary program
- Professional Travel Dynamics International tour staff
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials
- Baggage handling and airport transfers abroad on the designated program arrival and departure dates
- Gratuities to porters, guides, and drivers

Not Included
- Airfare
- Visa and passport fees (if applicable)
- Trip cancellation and baggage insurance
- Meals and beverages other than those specified above
- Personal expenses (such as laundry, telephone, Internet, etc.)
- Port charges and taxes
- Gratuities to shipboard personnel

Air Reservations
Airfare is not included in the Cruise and Land Rates. To make your air reservations, please contact Taunya DeYoung at Betchart Expeditions Inc., (800) 252-4910, or e-mail Taunya@betchartexpeditions.com

OPTIONAL PRE-CRUISE EXTENSION IN ROME
Enjoy an optional pre-cruise stay in Rome with two nights at the Hotel Bernini Bristol, two half-day sightseeing tours, and transfers.

Rates (per person):
- $1,225 double occupancy; $1,285 triple occupancy;
- $1,585 single occupancy

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for $________ as a deposit to hold ____ place(s) on Voyage to the Lands of Gods & Heroes, July 6–17, 2015. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check only.

Please make check payable to and mail with this registration form to:
Betchart Expeditions Inc. Trust Account
17050 Montebello Road, Cupertino, CA 95014

☐ AmEx  ☐ Discover  ☐ Visa  ☐ MasterCard

No.

Exp. ________ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code ______________

Please select cabin category in order of preference: A  B  C  D  E  S

☐ Twin Beds  ☐ Double Bed

☐ Single Occupancy  ☐ Shared (cannot be guaranteed)

Membership (please circle):
AAAS  ACS  SIGMA XI  PLANETARY SOCIETY

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of $1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. For your convenience, you may charge your deposit to your American Express, Visa, Discover, or MasterCard. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Credit cards are not accepted for final payment. However, personal checks are accepted for both deposits and final payment.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a $400 per person fee. In addition, cancellations received 61–90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations, and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Travel Dynamics International Ltd.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the passenger and Travel Dynamics International Ltd. and the tour’s sponsoring organization. The passenger is also advised to review his/her separate ticket passage contract with the vessel’s cruise operator, which will constitute the sole, legally enforceable terms of carriage for this cruise and is available on request from Travel Dynamics International Ltd. Travel Dynamics International Ltd. and the tour’s sponsoring organization act solely as agents for the passenger with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the passenger’s safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the passenger or in affecting these tours. We are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the passenger, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the passenger’s behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour’s itinerary and to substitute hotels, ships, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the passenger certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other passengers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person’s health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other passengers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought aboard the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the passenger’s risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Passenger tickets are not transferable and are not subject to alteration by the passenger. No suit shall be maintainable against the carrier, or vessel, for any losses, accidents, damages to person, property, personal injury (including death or other types of bodily injury) of the passengers, unless written notice of the claim, with full particulars, is delivered to the carrier or its agents at its office at the port of sailing or at the port of termination within six months from the day when such incident occurred. In no event shall any such suit or any claim against the carrier or vessel for any losses, accidents, damages to person, property, personal injury (including death or other types of bodily injury) of the passenger be maintainable unless such suit is commenced within one year from the day when the incident causing such loss, accident, damages to person, property, personal injury (including death or other types of bodily injury) of the passenger occurs, notwithstanding any provision of law of any state or country to the contrary. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be brought within the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, pursuant to the applicable general maritime law, and applying the applicable general maritime law and Federal maritime statutes.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

FUEL SUPPLEMENT: Travel Dynamics International Ltd. reserves the right to charge a fuel supplement, without prior notice, if the NYMEX oil price exceeds $85 per barrel. This supplement may be charged even if the cruise fare has been paid in full.

SHIP’S REGISTRY: Malta

QUESTIONS? Please contact Taunya DeYoung at (800) 252-4910 or e-mail Taunya@betchartexpeditions.com.
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