



THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
The University of Chicago
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Chicago, IL 60637-1540



Archaeological Treasures of Eastern Turkey

May 18 – June 3, 2013

Led by Dr. Gil J. Stein, The Oriental Institute

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Dear Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute:

For over seventy-five years, the Oriental Institute has been at the forefront of the study of Anatolia (modern Turkey). Starting in the 1920s we have excavated major sites in Turkey, and have continued up to the present with our two ongoing excavations at Kerkenes and Zincirli. Our archaeologists have explored virtually every major period in Turkey's incredibly rich history — from the origins of the first Neolithic villages 10,000 years ago up through the Islamic and Ottoman periods. Scholars from the Oriental Institute played a major role in establishing the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations in Ankara. One of our most lasting contributions to Anatolian studies is the compilation of the great Chicago Hittite Dictionary.

Our tour sets itself apart from other trips to Turkey by focusing on the great civilizations and monuments of central and eastern Turkey. I have conducted research in eastern Turkey for more than twenty years, and I am eager to share with you the fascination and the sheer beauty of its archaeological treasures. The tour will start in the Anatolian heartland of the Hittites and the Phrygians. You will have the opportunity to tour the Hittite capital Hattusa, and Gordion, the capital of the fabled King Midas. From there we will head east to visit some of the earliest temples ever erected on earth — the enigmatic shrines of Göbekli. We will make our way to Nemrut Dağ — the 2,000 year-old mountaintop tomb of King Antiochus of Commagene. Heading farther east, we will visit the stunningly beautiful 9th century AD church of Akdamar on an island in the middle of Lake Van, and will explore the fabled ruins of Ani, the medieval capital of Armenia. Throughout the program, you will be able to observe the contrasts — and contacts — between these ancient people, and how they made ancient Anatolia one of the great cradles of civilization. This is a very special tour to ancient cities and monuments that are off the beaten track for most visitors. Even if you have visited Turkey before, this program will give you new perspectives. Space is limited. I urge you to join us for this extraordinary program.

Gil J. Stein
Director, Oriental Institute



SATURDAY, MAY 18:

We depart Chicago in the evening.

SUNDAY, MAY 19: ANKARA

Evening arrival into Ankara. We will be met at the airport and transferred to the Hilton Hotel. This evening we will meet for a light dinner at our hotel.

HILTON HOTEL (D)

MONDAY, MAY 20: ANKARA

Our tour begins at the Museum of Anatolian Civilizations. Its outstanding collection of Hittite art provides an excellent introduction to the tour. After stopping to see the Roman remains of the Temple of Augustus, we will break for lunch. We then drive to Gordion, where we will spend the remainder of the day exploring the former capital of the kingdom of Phrygia. As we approach the site, the immense royal tumuli loom across the landscape. We will have an opportunity to enter the largest tumulus, known as Midas's tomb, and to visit the vast acropolis of the Phrygian city. We

return to Ankara in the late afternoon with time to rest before dinner.

HILTON HOTEL (B/L/D)

TUESDAY, MAY 21: CAPPADOCIA

We depart Ankara for the Hittite center at Hattusa, first excavated in 1906. A complete tour of this incredible site includes the famous Lion Gate, the fortifications and the temples and palaces of the city. After a buffet lunch, touring continues with the cult center of Yazilikaya, its reliefs cut into the living rock. We then drive on to Cappadocia.

HILTON DOUBLETREE (B/L/D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 22: CAPPADOCIA

We will drive to Kayseri to visit some of its old city's beautiful Selçuk buildings including Humat Hatun, the first Selçuk mosque complex built in Turkey. We might also visit the Ulu Camii and the Döner Kümbet, a good example of Selçuk mausoleums. Time permitting, we will visit Kültepe, one of Turkey's most important ancient settlements, where Anatolia's earliest written documents were found. After lunch in Kayseri, we begin our touring in the Göreme Valley, with its unusual and beautiful rock formations, known as "fairy chimneys," and its

rock-hewn Byzantine churches decorated with elaborate frescoes. This evening we will attend a presentation of whirling dervish ceremony at a lovely restored caravanserai.

HILTON DOUBLETREE (B/L/D)

THURSDAY, MAY 23: GAZIANTEP

This morning we depart for Gaziantep. We will stop en route to visit the Late Hittite fortress of Karatepe, founded in the 8th century BC by Asatiwatas, ruler of the plain of Adana. We will see the remaining blocks of basalt carved with sculptures of lions and sphinxes, inscriptions and reliefs, depicting cultural and mythological scenes, as well as scenes of daily life. Our arrival into Gaziantep will be late in the afternoon.

DEDEMAN HOTEL (B/L/D)

FRIDAY, MAY 24: URFA

This morning we will visit Gaziantep's newly installed Mosaic Museum. We then cross the Euphrates and continue to Urfa, ancient Edessa. En route we will visit the on-going excavations at Göbekli Tepe, where stone circles with carved reliefs have been dated to 9500 BC. Late this afternoon we will visit Urfa's old covered bazaar, a maze of stalls and small shops selling everything from spices and carpets to plastic pots. At its center, a 16th-century caravanserai has been converted to a teahouse.

DEDEMAN HOTEL (B/L/D)

SATURDAY, MAY 25: KAHTA

This morning we drive into the plains of Mesopotamia to Harran, where Abraham stopped on his way from Ur. We will explore the ruins of ancient Harran, known as Carrhae in the Roman period and the place of a decisive battle in 53 BC. We will also visit the unusual "beehive" mudbrick houses of modern Harran.



FRONT COVER: Nemrut Dağ – funerary sanctuary of King Antiochus I of Commagene

RIGHT: Lion Gate at Hattusa



Lake Van, Akdamar Island

After lunch, we will visit the Urfa Museum, which displays the oldest life-size human statue ever found (ca. 9000 BCE), and complete our Urfa touring. We then drive on to Kahta, a small village in the mountain foothills. Our route will be via the new dam, where we will make a brief stop before driving on through the cultivated fields made possible by this dam.

HOTEL ZEUS (B/L/D)

SUNDAY, MAY 26: MARDIN

An early morning ascent of Mt. Nemrut brings us to the impressive funerary sanctuary of King Antiochus I of Commagene, erected 2,000 years ago. Here, colossal headless statues of gods and kings tower above the site and their enormous heads are scattered over the terraces. We continue to ESKIKALE to visit the ruins of Arsameia and the burial mounds of the queens and princesses of Commagene. After lunch, we continue to Mardin.

HILTON GARDEN INN (B/L/D)

MONDAY, MAY 27: MARDIN

We begin this day with a walking tour of Mardin's fascinating architectural houses and

mosques as well as the 15th-century Forty Martyrs Church and the amazing Post Office. Then continue to the monastery of Mar Hanania, once the seat of the Syrian Orthodox patriarchate. Built in AD 495, it was destroyed by the Persians in 607, and after being rebuilt was looted again by Tamerlane. There are still amazing things to see here, including a lovely 1500-year-old mosaic floor. This afternoon touring continues at Mar Yakub and the other monasteries in the region.

HILTON GARDEN INN (B/L/D)

TUESDAY, MAY 28: VAN

Our drive to Van takes us through the beautiful valley of Güzeldere. Traveling around Lake Van, we arrive at the city of Van early in the afternoon. The day ends with a visit to Van Kalesi, where, having reached the citadel, we will see the site of the Urartian temple and several tombs of Urartian kings. The view from these heights is magnificent and well worth the climb.

HOTEL RESCATE (B/L/D)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 29: VAN

Today's touring begins with a short cruise across Lake Van to Akdamar Island. In the 10th century, the Armenian king Gagik founded the Church of the Holy Cross here. It has since become famous for the wonderful reliefs on its outer walls. After sampling some of Lake Van's nicely grilled fish, our exploration of the vanished civilizations of Urartu begins at Çavustepe, where excavations have revealed the temple, altar, storage areas, water system, and Royal Palace. Time permitting, we will drive out to Hoşap Kalesi to explore this castle built in 1643. The entrance of the castle is decorated with murals showing Islamic and ancient oriental symbols.

HOTEL RESCATE (B/L/D)

THURSDAY, MAY 30: KARS

We drive along the foothills of Mt. Ararat, sacred to Armenians, where, according to tradition, Noah's Ark came to rest after the flood. After lunch in Kars, we visit Ani, located near the Georgian/Armenian border. Ani, once the capital of the Bagratid Princess, is now a site of romantic beauty. Strolling through the

Lion Gate, we can almost visualize the city as it was before the terrible earthquake of 1319. We will visit the local museum and settle into our hotel for dinner.

GRAND ANI HOTEL (B/L/D)

FRIDAY, MAY 31: ISTANBUL

A morning flight brings us to Istanbul. We will have lunch in the Galata Tower, which affords us spectacular views of the city. Then our touring begins at the fabulous Archaeological Museum, noted for its fine collections of sarcophagi and Hittite artifacts.

MARMARA HOTEL (B/L)

SATURDAY, JUNE 1: ISTANBUL

This morning's touring begins at the Hippodrome and the Hagia Sophia and Blue Mosques. Our visit to the Turkish monuments of the city continues at the Church of Kariye Camii, with its restored frescoes and mosaics. After lunch we will visit the Military Museum and attend a performance by the Ottoman Military Band.

MARMARA HOTEL (B/L)

SUNDAY, JUNE 2: ISTANBUL

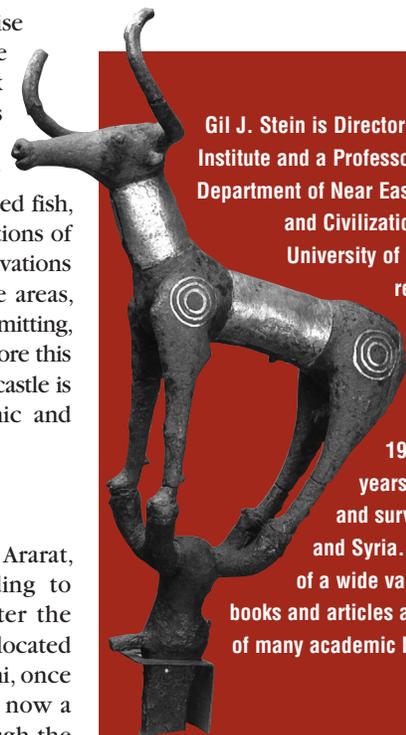
Today will be at leisure to explore the city or visit Istanbul's fascinating Grand Bazaar. We will offer an optional morning tour of the Topkapi Palace Museum, with its dazzling display of jewels and fascinating harem. Late in the afternoon we will board our chartered boat for a sunset Bosphorus cruise. We will disembark at one of Istanbul's fine restaurants for our farewell dinner.

MARMARA HOTEL (B/D)

MONDAY, JUNE 3

We will transfer to the airport for our flight to Chicago.

(B)



Gil J. Stein is Director of the Oriental Institute and a Professor in the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at the University of Chicago. He

received his PhD in Anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania in 1988. For over 20

years he has excavated and surveyed in Turkey and Syria. He is the author of a wide variety of scholarly books and articles and the recipient of many academic honors.

Archaeological Treasures of Eastern Turkey

RESERVATION FORM

PLEASE MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:

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PLEASE NOTE: This tour should be considered moderately strenuous. It will require some walking over rough, uneven terrain or climbing steps without hand rails and some long driving days. All participants are expected to be physically active and able to walk independently throughout our full touring days. If you have questions about your ability to participate in this tour, please contact the Oriental Institute or Archaeological Tours to discuss your options.



For additional information, please contact the Oriental Institute Membership Office (773-834-9777) oi-membership@uchicago.edu



COST OF TOUR: \$8093
(includes group airfare from Chicago)

Single Supplement: \$985

Land Only: \$6730
(without group airfare)

THE TOUR RATE INCLUDES:

- Transatlantic group flights from Chicago and flights within Turkey on Turkish Airlines. Surface travel by air-conditioned motor coach as detailed in the itinerary.
- Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a twin-bedded room with private bath as listed or similar.
- Meals as listed in the detailed itinerary, table d'hôte.
B – Breakfast L – Lunch D – Dinner
- Baggage handling for one suitcase per person.
- All gratuities to tour managers, guides, drivers and porters.
- A \$600 contribution to The Oriental Institute.

NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR COST: Passport and visa fees, excess baggage charges, transfers to and from airports for tour participants arriving or departing on flights other than the group flights, insurance, beverages and items not on the menus.

TARIFFS: Based on foreign exchange rates in effect July 2012 and a minimum of 15 participants. Airfare is based on a group fare and includes all internal flights. All rates subject to change.

DEPOSITS & PAYMENTS: A \$1000 deposit is required to book. Final payment is due sixteen weeks before departure.

SINGLE ROOMS: For those traveling alone but who prefer to share with another, we will endeavor to work out congenial rooming arrangements. If impossible, or if a single room must be assigned due to the roommate's canceling or incompatibility, or for any other reason, even if at the last moment or while on tour, the single supplement or prorate thereof must be collected.

INSURANCE: Insurance is available and is recommended. By purchasing trip cancellation insurance within 14 days of your initial deposit, Travel Insured International, Inc. will waive the usual exclusion for preexisting medical conditions.

CANCELLATIONS: In the event of cancellation, refund in full less a \$300 handling fee will be made until sixteen weeks before departure. From sixteen to twelve weeks before departure, the penalty is \$2800. From twelve weeks until eight weeks before departure, the penalty is \$5200, and after that time the penalty is \$6000 plus any penalties levied by hotels and operators. These penalties could reach 100% for last-minute cancellations. There will be no refund for cancellations on the day of departure or thereafter. In addition, if cancellation is made within 60 days of departure, the airlines require a penalty. Cancellation of the tour by the Oriental Institute: full refund.

Note: Neither the Oriental Institute nor Archaeological Tours accepts liability for any airline penalties incurred by the purchase of nonrefundable airline tickets.

RESPONSIBILITY: ARCHAEOLOGICAL TOURS, a division of LINDSTONE TRAVEL, INC., and THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE in accepting bookings for the tour, clearly stipulates that it is not liable for the faults or defaults of other companies and persons that may be used in the carrying out of the tour services; also for accidents, baggage losses, delays, strikes, political unrest, riots, and acts of God and war. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operator. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. The right is also reserved to withdraw this tour; also to decline to accept or retain any persons as members of the tour. No refund can be made for absence from the tour unless arrangements are made at the time of booking. IATA carriers concerned are not to be held responsible for acts, omissions or events during the time passengers are not on board. The passage contract in use by the companies concerned shall constitute the sole contract between the company and purchaser of these tours and/or passengers.

