a program of the stanford alumni association

VOYAGE ON THE
Black Sea

TURKEY, GEORGIA, UKRAINE & BULGARIA

September 25 to October 6, 2016
Every summer, Turks, Georgians, Russians, Ukrainians and Bulgarians flock to the sunny shores of the Black Sea to frolic in its deep-blue waters, belying the image of darkness and turbulence many Westerners have of this region. Yet, as the Black Sea grows as a popular tourist destination, it’s irrefutable that the lands surrounding this major crossroad of the ancient world have indeed seen their share of upheaval—during the Crimean War and World Wars I and II, as well as more recently during the dispute over Crimea. As we circumnavigate this historic body of water, Professor Jim Sheehan will put into context for us this complex region and the vastly different countries and cultures that have coexisted around its shores for millennia. Join us!

BRETT S. THOMPSON, ’83, DIRECTOR, STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

Highlights

FLY to Tbilisi on a private charter flight to explore the Georgian capital’s bold Narikala Fortress and Orthodox churches.

ENJOY a cappella singers at Odessa’s Uspensky Cathedral, private concerts in Odessa and Varna, and a lively performance of Georgian folk dancing in Batumi.

EXPLORE the historic Turkish town of Amasya, where Pontic tombs honeycomb the mountains and fine classical Ottoman buildings line the riverbanks.

VIEW the culturally and religiously significant Greek Orthodox Monastery of the Virgin Mary (Sumela Monastery), carved into the Pontic Mountains near Trabzon.
Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Istanbul. Upon arrival on Monday, transfer to the Island Sky for a welcome orientation and reception while cruising the Bosphorus Strait.

**Island Sky** (9/26: D)

**Tuesday, September 27**
**At Sea**
Relax aboard ship and enjoy the beginning of our lecture program as the Island Sky cruises along Turkey’s coastline. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Wednesday, September 28**
**Samsun / Amasya**
Dock in the major Black Sea port of Samsun, where Atatürk orchestrated the birth of the new Turkish republic in the 1920s. From here travel overland to Amasya, former capital of the ancient Pontic Kingdom and a treasure trove of rock-hewn tombs, classical wooden mansions, and Seljuk and Ottoman monuments. Visit the Archaeological Museum, where artifacts from 13 civilizations are on display. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Thursday, September 29**
**At Sea / Batumi, Georgia**
Batumi, a seaport on the Black Sea coast of Georgia, lies at the northern edge of the humid subtropical zone. This afternoon, choose to visit either the Batumi Botanical Garden, which overlooks the Black Sea and is one of the richest botanical gardens in the world or Gonio Fortress, built by the Romans in the 1st century C.E. and the site of ongoing excavations. Enjoy dinner off the ship and a performance by a noted Georgian folk dance ensemble. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Friday, September 30**
**Tbilisi**
Take an early-morning charter flight from Batumi to Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. Upon arrival explore the 4th-century Narikala Fortress, which dominates the Old Town skyline; Abanotubani, the historic bath house district; and the city’s churches and Eastern Orthodox cathedral. Return by air to Batumi for dinner onboard. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Saturday, October 1**
**Trabzon, Turkey**
After we arrive in Trabzon, travel to the Greek Orthodox Monastery of the Virgin Mary (Sumela Monastery), spectacularly situated in the Pontic Mountains. Afterwards, enjoy a tasting of local cheese specialties and visit the colorful local market. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Sunday, October 2**
**At Sea**
Our onboard lecture series continues as the Island Sky cruises to Odessa. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Monday, October 3**
**Odessa, Ukraine**
Odessa is a city of resplendent mansions and fine old churches. On our city tour, visit the holocaust memorial; the Potemkin Steps, famously depicted in Sergei Eisenstein’s classic 1925 silent film, *Battle-ship Potemkin*; and the Odessa Archaeological Museum. Dine this evening in central Odessa at a historic venue, followed by a special performance of classical music. **Island Sky** (B,L,D)

**Island Sky** (B,L,D)
Pre-trip Extension to Istanbul
SEPTEMBER 22 TO 26

Spend three days exploring the exceptional treasures of Istanbul: Hagia Sophia, once the largest cathedral in the world and now a museum; Sultan Ahmed Mosque, popularly known as the Blue Mosque for the blue Iznik tiles that adorn its interior; Chora Church, a Byzantine marvel of fine mosaics and frescoes; Topkapi Palace, an opulent royal enclave; the Hippodrome, once the center of Byzantine life; Suleymaniye Mosque, an Ottoman imperial mosque and the largest in the city; and the Grand Bazaar, where 61 covered labyrinthine streets house more than 3,000 shops.

Post-trip extension to Cappadocia
OCTOBER 6 TO 9

Spend three nights in World Heritage–listed Cappadocia, land of “fairy chimneys,” troglodytic villages and underground cities. Fly to Kayseri, once an important stop on the Silk Road and rich in historical monuments, primarily from the Seljuk period. Explore Byzantine cave churches decorated with colorful frescoes in the Göreme Valley, visit an underground city in the Zelve Valley, marvel at the thousands of dovecotes in “Pigeon Valley” and attend a Whirling Dervish ceremony.

Additional extension details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.
Island Sky

Originally built in 1992 and refurbished and redecorated in 2015, the Island Sky accommodates all guests in 57 outside suites, each affording sea views and elegantly furnished with a sitting area, flat-screen TV, safe, mini-refrigerator and an en suite bathroom with robes, slippers, hair dryer and toiletries. Several suites have private balconies. Spacious and finely decorated public areas include a large lounge, an elegant bar and a library. The dining room accommodates all guests in a single seating where house wine, beer and soft drinks are included at lunch and dinner. Wi-Fi access is available throughout the vessel (at additional cost and dependent upon satellite reception). The ship also offers a hairdresser, onboard clinic and doctor, elevator serving all passenger decks, and two sun decks, one with a bar. The Island Sky is served by 75 experienced officers and crew.

Program Cost*

Rates are per person, based on double or single occupancy, as specified.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>DOUBLE RATE</th>
<th>SINGLE RATE**</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category A: Magellan Deck</td>
<td>$8,990</td>
<td>$13,490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230 sq. ft. with portholes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category B: Magellan Deck</td>
<td>$9,990</td>
<td>$14,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>230 sq. ft. with portholes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category C: Columbus Deck</td>
<td>$11,490</td>
<td>$17,240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>235 sq. ft. with window</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category D: Marco Polo Deck</td>
<td>$11,990</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225 sq. ft. with window</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category E: Marco Polo Deck</td>
<td>$13,490</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>240 sq. ft. with forward &amp; side windows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category F: Erikson Deck</td>
<td>$15,490</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>269 sq. ft. with private balcony</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category G: Explorer Deck</td>
<td>$16,490</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>325 sq. ft. with window &amp; private balcony</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.

**Single accommodations may be limited to as few as 2 cabins.

Flag: Bahamas / Length: 297 ft. / Beam: 50 ft. / Draft: 12 ft.
Information

D A T E S
September 25 to October 6, 2016 (12 days)

S I Z E
This program can accommodate a total of 96 participants, including travelers from Stanford, the Harvard Alumni Association, the Santa Barbara Museum of Art and the Archaeological Institute of America. Single accommodations are extremely limited; please call for availability.

I N C L U D E D
10-night cruise aboard the Island Sky • 10 breakfasts, 9 lunches and 10 dinners • Welcome and farewell wine receptions • Gratuities to guides, drivers and ship crew for all group activities • All tours and shore excursions as described in the itinerary • Transfers and baggage handling on program arrival and departure days • Roundtrip charter flight between Batumi and Tbilisi on 9/30 • Port fees and embarkation taxes • Minimal medical, accident and evacuation insurance • Educational program with lecture series and pre-departure materials, including recommended reading list, a selected book, map and travel information • Services of our professional tour manager to assist you throughout the program

N O T I N C L U D E D
International and U.S. domestic airfare • Passport and visa fees • Immunization costs • Meals and beverages other than those specified as included • Independent and private transfers • Trip-cancellation/interruption and baggage insurance • Excess-baggage charges • Personal items such as internet access, telephone and fax calls, laundry and gratuities for nongroup services

A I R A R R A N G E M E N T S
International and U.S. domestic airfare is not included in the program cost. Round-trip, economy-class airfare between San Francisco and Istanbul is approximately $1,300 as of November 2015 and is subject to change without notice. Information on recommended flight itineraries will be sent by our designated agent.

W H A T T O E X P E C T
We consider this program to be moderately active with a full schedule of excursions and lectures. Daily shore excursions involve one to three miles of walking. Some walking takes place at ancient sites, where paths can be rocky and uneven. In some instances, such as museums, guided tours require climbing up and down several flights of stairs, some of which may not have handrails and which may have high thresholds. In some buildings, elevators are not available. Some sites and museums do not allow coaches to pull up in front, thus requiring a several minutes’ walk to reach the entrance on foot. Our busy days are complemented by a relaxed pace onboard our ship, where we have an opportunity to enjoy lectures and leisure time. Medical treatment and care may not always be available or up to U.S. standards. Participants must be physically fit, active and in good health. We welcome travelers 15 years of age and older on this program.

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. An additional $200-per-person deposit is required for each of the optional pre-/post-trip extensions. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?blacksea2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip, depending on your destination and state of residence.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in November 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

Terms & Conditions

Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. An additional $200-per-person deposit is required for each of the optional pre-/post-trip extensions. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip?blacksea2016 or call the Travel/Study office at (650) 725-1093. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure. As a condition of participation, all confirmed participants are required to sign a Release of Liability.

Cancellations & Refunds
Deposits and any payments are refundable, less a $500-per-person cancellation fee, until 120 days prior to departure. After that date, refunds can be made only if the program is sold out and your place(s) can be resold, in which case a $1,000-per-person cancellation fee will apply.

Insurance
Stanford Travel/Study provides all travelers who are U.S. or Canadian citizens with minimal medical, accident and evacuation coverage under our group-travel insurance policy. Our group policy is intended to provide minimal levels of protection while you are traveling on this program. You may choose to subscribe to optional trip-cancellation and baggage insurance. Information offering such insurance will be provided to travelers with their welcome materials. The product offered includes special benefits if you purchase your policy within 14 days of written confirmation of your participation on the trip, depending on your destination and state of residence.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. Families and travel companions may travel on one membership. For more information or to purchase a membership, visit alumni.stanford.edu/goto/membership or call (650) 725-0692.

Responsibility
The Stanford Alumni Association, Stanford University and our operators act only as agents for the passenger with respect to transportation and ship arrangements and exercise every care possible in doing so. However, we can assume no liability for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity in connection with the service of any automobile, motorcoach, launch or any other conveyance used in carrying out this program or for the acts or defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the program. We cannot accept any responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, force majeure or other causes beyond our control. All such losses or expenses will have to be borne by the passenger as tour rates provide arrangements only for the time stated. We reserve the right to make such alterations to this published itinerary as may be deemed necessary. The right is reserved to cancel any program prior to departure in which case the entire payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part. The right is also reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the program. No refund will be made for an unused portion of any tour. Baggage is carried at the owner’s risk entirely. It is understood that the ship’s ticket, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the cruise company. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not onboard their plane or conveyance. Neither the Alumni Association, Stanford University nor our operators accept liability for any carrier’s cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable ticket in connection with the tour. Program price is based on rates in effect in November 2015 and is subject to change without notice to reflect fluctuations in exchange rates, tariffs or fuel charges.

Telephone (650) 725-1093
Email travelstudy@alumni.stanford.edu

California Seller of Travel Program Registration #2048 523-50
JAMES SHEEHAN is the Dickason Professor in the Humanities and professor emeritus of history at Stanford University. His research focuses on 19th- and 20th-century European history, specifically on the relationship between ideas and social and economic conditions in modern Europe. His most recent book, *Where Have All the Soldiers Gone?*, examines the decline of military institutions in Europe since 1945. He is currently working on a book about the rise of European states in the modern era. Educated at Stanford and UC-Berkeley, Professor Sheehan taught at Northwestern University for 15 years before joining the Stanford faculty in 1979. He is the recipient of four teaching awards, a Humboldt Research Prize and an NEH fellowship. About this program, Jim states, “For more than 2,000 years, the Black Sea has been a center of cultural and political conflict and collaboration. We will have a rare opportunity to experience its historical sites and to get a better understanding of its importance for the contemporary world. This is going to be an unforgettable journey.”

Harvard Study Leader

DAVID A. AGUILAR, former director of public affairs and science information at the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, is an internationally recognized author, lecturer, astronomy expert, naturalist and space artist whose expertise lies in explaining the fascinating connections between the universe and ourselves.

Archaeological Institute of America Study Leader

KATHLEEN LYNCH is interim department head and associate professor of classics at the University of Cincinnati and a classical archaeologist with a focus on ancient Greek ceramics. She earned her PhD from the University of Virginia and has worked on archaeological projects at sites in Turkey, Greece, Italy and Albania.

STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093
We enjoyed all aspects of this trip immensely: itinerary, fellow passengers, faculty, staff & crew.”

NANCYBELL COE, CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF THE BLACK SEA, 2014