HISTORY, CULTURE AND MUSIC ALONG FRENCH AND ITALIAN SHORES

October 8 to 17, 2016

a program of the stanford alumni association
This Mediterranean voyage not only drops anchor at several mainland cities and off-the-beaten-track island ports along the west coast of Italy, but it also gives us the added pleasure of attending music performances by renowned local musicians along the way. And what better way to experience the very essence of a place than through its music? As we explore ancient sites and architecturally distinctive villages in some seven ports of call, our Travel/Study faculty leader, Aron Rodrigue will contribute the historical context with the inspiring melodies of the Mediterranean supplying the soundtrack. Join us on this unique cruise filled with history, music and the sublime beauty of the Mediterranean!

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

Highlights

**ENJOY** Stanford Travel/Study’s exclusive program as we meander through the Mediterranean on the three-masted sailing ship, *Le Ponant.*

**LISTEN** to chamber musicians from the Fondazione Pietà de’ Turchini perform at the Chiessa di San Rocco in Naples.

**EXPLORE** Pompeii, the Roman city buried and thus preserved by fallout from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 C.E.
ARON RODRIGUE was born in Istanbul and educated in English and American schools there before leaving Turkey to pursue higher education in the United Kingdom and the United States. He earned his PhD at Harvard University and has been a professor of history at Stanford since 1991. His research areas are the history and cultures of the Ottoman Empire, Spain, France and Italy with specific reference to the Jewish and other minority communities around the Mediterranean. He is the author of Sephardi Jewry: A History of the Judeo-Spanish Community, 14th–20th Centuries (UC Press, 2000). He has always been fascinated by the coastal cities of France and Italy and their connection to the rest of the world. His lectures during our program will cover several important episodes of these cities’ histories from antiquity through the Renaissance to contemporary times, such as the famous battle of Anzio during World War II.

— Charles Taylor Professor of Jewish History and Culture, Stanford University, since 2011
— Director and Anthony P. Meier Family Professor in the Humanities, Stanford Humanities Center, 2008–2013
— Chair, department of history, Stanford University, 2005–2008
— Director (and founder), Mediterranean Studies Forum, Stanford University, 2005–2010
— Named a Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et Lettres (Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters), France, 2013

"Travel/Study is the only way to travel. The study part makes the travel part so rewarding."

MARTHA HASTINGS PIWONKA, ’59, OPUS MEDITERRANEO, 2015

STANFORD TRAVEL/STUDY

OR BY PHONE: (650) 725-1093

PORTO SANTO STEFANO
**Itinerary**

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8 & 9**
**U.S. / NICE, FRANCE**
Depart the U.S. on overnight flights and upon arrival in Nice on Sunday, transfer to the Hotel Negresco. Enjoy the remainder of the day at leisure before a welcome reception this evening at our hotel. **HOTEL NEGRESCO**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 10**
**NICE / SAINT-PAUL-DE-VENCE / EMBARK**
Visit delightful St.-Paul-de-Vence, a medieval village that became a favorite artists’ retreat in the 1920s. Largely rebuilt in 1537 by Francois I, the old fortified town reveals the ramparts that once defended it and affords spectacular views of the mountains and sea. Visit the Maeght Foundation, whose modern building houses an acclaimed collection of 20th-century works by artists who include Braque, Chagall, Miró and Picasso. In the afternoon, return to Nice for independent lunch and time to enjoy a musical performance before embarking on our cruise ship in the late afternoon. **LE PONANT (B,L,D)**

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11**
**PIOMBINO, ITALY / POPULONIA**
From the historic port of Piombino, travel to Populonia. Founded about 900 B.C.E., Populonia is one of the most extensive Etruscan sites in Italy—a testament to its central role in Etruscan civilization. It was one of only two Etruscan seaports and also the center of metallurgy, where copper and iron from the surrounding hills were melted to supply the needs of a growing economy. Enjoy a wine tasting followed by lunch ashore before returning to our ship. **LE PONANT (B,L,D)**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12**
**GAETA / SPERLONGA**
Explore Gaeta on Italy’s Campania coast, built on a promontory facing a large bay and topped by an imposing castle. Take an excursion to Sperlonga, a town of narrow streets and whitewashed houses. Also visit the remains of the Villa of Tiberius and the National Archaeological Museum of Sperlonga, housing items excavated at the villa. **LE PONANT (B,L,D)**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13**
**NAPLES / POMPEII**
From Naples, our morning excursion takes us to Pompeii, the Roman city both destroyed and preserved by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 C.E. No other place so completely captures the character of life in the early Roman Empire. This afternoon visit the National Archaeological Museum of Naples, where we view a rich collection of mosaics, many from Pompeii and Herculanum. Also enjoy a private chamber music performance this afternoon at the Chiesa di San Rocco. **LE PONANT (B,L,D)**

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14**
**ANZIO / OSTIA ANTICA**
Drive along the coast of the Tyrrhenian Sea on our way to Ostia Antica. Originally at the mouth of the Tiber River, Ostia Antica was the seaport for ancient Rome and boasted a population of 100,000 by the 3rd century C.E. The silting up of the harbor and exposure to numerous attacks led to the city’s eventual abandonment by the 9th century. Ostia Antica’s ruins and magnificent frescoes and mosaics complement Pompeii in showcasing the wonders of an ancient Roman city. **LE PONANT (B,L,D)**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15**
**PORTO SANTO STEFANO / TARQUINIA**
From the resort town of Porto Santo Stefano, drive to Tarquinia, which was likely
the lead city of the Etruscan Confederacy and is famous for its remarkable painted tombs—an incredible 5,735 have been found to date. Visit several of the most prominent tombs and stop at the National Museum, housed in a splendid Renaissance palazzo. LE PONANT (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16
LIVORNO / LUCCA / TORRE DEL LAGO PUCCINI
From the port of Livorno, this morning we visit Lucca, birthplace of Giacomo Puccini and home to one of the finest assemblages of Romanesque churches and medieval palaces. Continue to Torre del Lago Puccini, where Puccini lived from 1891 to 1921 in a villa, today called the Villa Museo Puccini and still owned by his granddaughter. Enjoy a private musical performance at the Basilica di San Giovanni before returning to our ship. Gather this evening for a farewell cocktail reception before dinner.
LE PONANT (B,L,D)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17
NICE, FRANCE / DISEMBARK / U.S.
Disembark Le Ponant and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)


Le Ponant

*Le Ponant* is a sleek, 290-foot-long, three-masted sailing vessel. Built in 1991 in France and refurbished in 2012, *Le Ponant’s* 32 well-appointed cabins are positioned mid-ship and have outside views, queen or twin beds, minibar, hi-fi system, individual air conditioning, telephone, bathrobes, and private shower and toilet. The four-deck vessel has ample deck space and is well-served by two restaurants. Breakfast and lunch are enjoyed buffet-style under a canopied deck, while dinner is taken in the attractive dining room. Other facilities include a main lounge, terrace lounge and bar, small library and boutique.

**Program Cost**

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

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<th>CAT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>DOUBLE</th>
<th>SINGLE**</th>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with a porthole window and a queen bed, 116 sq. ft.</td>
<td><strong>$9,695</strong></td>
<td><strong>$13,590</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with a porthole window and a queen bed or twin beds, 121 sq. ft.</td>
<td><strong>$10,395</strong></td>
<td><strong>$14,290</strong></td>
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<td>B</td>
<td>Cabin on the Marie-Galante Deck with porthole windows and queen bed, 135 to 145 sq. ft.</td>
<td><strong>$11,095</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Cabin on the Antigua Deck with a picture window and a queen bed, 132 to 164 sq. ft.</td>
<td><strong>$11,595</strong></td>
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*Association nonmembers add $300 per person.
**Please call the Travel/Study office for specific room sizes and bed choices.
Deposit & Final Payment
A $1,000-per-person deposit is required to hold your space. Sign up online at alumni.stanford.edu/trip/opus2016 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.

Eligibility
We encourage membership in the Alumni Association as the program cost for nonmembers is $300 more than the members’ price. A person traveling as a guest of a current member will not be charged the nonmember fee. 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 delays 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 unless arrangements are made in sufficient time to avoid penalties. 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.
“Hearing wonderful music in these beautiful settings was divine.”

Laurie Brown, Opus Mediterraneo, 2014

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