ITALY, CROATIA, ALBANIA & MONTENEGRO
Adriatic Sea Voyage aboard Island Sky
With MICHAEL MCCORMICK
Francis Goelet Professor of Medieval History
June 10–18, 2016
OVER MANY MILLENNIA, A SUCCESSION OF CIVILIZATIONS LEFT THEIR IMPRINT ALONG THE ADRIATIC SHORELINES of Italy, Albania, Montenegro, and Croatia. On this late spring cruise aboard Island Sky from Venice to Dubrovnik—a region well worth exploring for its natural beauty alone—visit spellbinding archaeological sites, impressive cathedrals and palaces, and ancient city centers that illuminate the layered history of the Adriatic Sea.

Embark Island Sky in Venice and depart for Pula, located on Croatia’s Istrian Peninsula and known for its many impressive Roman structures.

Further down the coastline, visit the island of Hvar, a jewel of the Adriatic; and Split, where the Roman ruins of Emperor Diocletian’s Palace still dominate the waterfront.

On the Italian side of the Adriatic, explore Otranto’s impressive baroque cathedral, and on Albania’s southern coast, visit the extensive ruins at Butrint, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Cruise into the beautiful Bay of Kotor for a visit to Cetinje, a cradle of Montenegrin culture. End in Dubrovnik, a UNESCO World Heritage site considered one of the best-preserved medieval walled cities in the world. Optional extensions in Venice and in Sarajevo, Mostar, and Medjugorje are also available.
Michael McCormick is the Francis Goelet Professor of Medieval History at Harvard University. As a historian and archaeologist of the late Roman Empire and early medieval Europe, he has authored a prize-winning monograph, Origins of the European Economy (Cambridge University Press, 2002), on the transformations of Mediterranean shipping and communications networks in Roman and medieval times; and, more recently, Charlemagne’s Survey of the Holy Land (Dumbarton Oaks/Harvard University Press, 2011). He currently co-directs the excavation of a late Roman settlement in eastern France and is leading a project aimed at constructing the most detailed historical record yet of European climate.

Professor McCormick has chaired the Standing Committees on Archaeology and on Medieval Studies. He currently chairs the Initiative for the Science of the Human Past, a new Harvard research and teaching network that brings together colleagues and students from all divisions of the University to explore and promote natural scientific approaches to the past. Harvard College undergraduates and alumni prize his dedication to lively teaching inspired by pioneering research.

ADDITIONAL LECTURERS

Gail Lapidus, AB ’59, PhD ’74, a senior fellow emerita at the Institute for International Studies at Stanford University, has had a long-standing interest in ethno-political conflicts in the former USSR and in nation- and state-building in the post-Soviet states. She is the author of numerous books and articles on Soviet and post-Soviet politics, society, and foreign policy. She earned her doctorate at Harvard University.

Andrew M.T. Moore is president of the Archaeological Institute of America. Recently retired from Rochester Institute of Technology, he also taught European and world archaeology at the University of Arizona and Yale University. Since 1960, he has participated in archaeological surveys, excavations, and field research in many countries and is currently conducting surveys and excavations in Neolithic villages in Croatia.

Learn about renowned Croatian sculptor Ivan Mestrovic, who created this imposing bronze statue of medieval bishop Gregory of Nin, during a visit to Mestrovic’s former residence-turned-gallery in Split.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, June 13</td>
<td>Hvar &amp; Split</td>
<td>The island of Hvar is known for its fields of fragrant lavender and its beautiful walled city. Enjoy a guided walking tour of the elegant promenades and bustling harbor before returning to the ship for lunch and continuing to Split. Visit the imperial Roman ruins of Emperor Diocletian’s Palace, which dominates the waterfront of Croatia’s second-largest city. Then enjoy either an exploration of the archaeological site of Salona or a private opening of the gallery of Croatian sculptor Ivan Mestrovic, located in his former residence. <strong>Island Sky (B,L,D)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, June 14</td>
<td>Otranto, Italy</td>
<td>After a morning at sea, arrive in Otranto, at the bottom of the heel of Italy’s “boot” in the largely undiscovered region of Apulia. Visit the impressive 11th-century baroque cathedral, with fine mosaics and a rose window, and the 15th-century Castello Aragonese. Then travel to a nearby farm for a locavore dinner (a particular regional favorite is orechiette, pasta in the shape of “small ears”) accompanied by the strains of the tarantella. <strong>Island Sky (B,L,D)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, June 15</td>
<td>Butrint, Albania</td>
<td>Disembark on the southern coast of Albania at Sarande, the major port and trade center between Venice and Constantinople during the Byzantine Empire. Nearby, the UNESCO World Heritage city of Butrint features remains from every stage of its long evolution. Explore the extensive ruins, including a 4th-century theater, the Temple of Asclepius, an ancient Roman bath, and an extraordinarily well preserved early Byzantine baptistery. Continue cruising to Kotor this afternoon. <strong>Island Sky (B,L,D)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, June 16</td>
<td>Kotor, Montenegro</td>
<td><strong>Island Sky</strong> enters Montenegro’s dramatic Bay of Kotor, gliding through the triple bays surrounded by the majestic Dinaric Mountains. Upon arrival in Kotor, disembark for a walking tour of the town’s historic center. Enjoy lunch en route to the old Montenegrin capital of Cetinje, home of the official residence of the president of Montenegro. Cetinje boasts a rich historical heritage as the cradle of Montenegrin culture and an Orthodox religious center. After a guided walk through the town, drive along a scenic route to the village of Njegusi to sample local specialties before returning to the ship for the captain’s farewell reception and dinner. <strong>Island Sky remains in Kotor overnight. Island Sky (B,L,D)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 17</td>
<td>Dubrovnik, Croatia</td>
<td>The beautiful Dalmatian Coast reveals its grandeur as the Island Sky arrives in Dubrovnik’s Old Town Harbor this morning. Disembark the ship via tenders to explore the sites along the Stradun (or Placa), the main street of Dubrovnik, including the Franciscan Monastery, St. Blaise’s Church, the Rector’s Palace, and St. Onofrio’s Fountain. Enjoy lunch on your own, then visit the ancient site of Epidaurum at Cavtat or enjoy an afternoon at leisure. This evening, gather for dinner at one of Dubrovnik’s historic palaces followed by a performance by the noted Lindjo Croatian folkloric ensemble. <strong>Island Sky (B,D)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, June 18</td>
<td>Dubrovnik / Home</td>
<td>Disembark the ship and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Included meals are designated as B=breakfast, L=lunch, R=reception, D=dinner.**

Experience the wide range of treasures that the Adriatic Sea countries have to offer, from the fascinating layers of history at the archaeological site of the well-preserved Roman Temple of Augustus in Pula, and the culinary delights of Italy’s Apulia region.
OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS

Venice, Italy
June 8–11, 2016
Arrive in the majestic harbor of Venice for a two-night stay in one of Italy’s most enchanting cities, renowned for the beauty of its setting, architecture, and artworks. Along with its lagoon, the entire city is designated a World Heritage site. Take a private boat cruise among the islands of the lagoon, see the treasures of the Doge’s Palace before it opens to the public, and visit St. Mark’s Basilica after closing, when lighting on the mosaics reflects their golden gleam. Delve into the history of the Jewish Ghetto and its synagogues, and explore the art and gardens of Peggy Guggenheim’s canal-side contemporary museum. Ample free time for independent explorations is included. (2B,1L,1D)

Sarajevo, Mostar & Medjugorje Bosnia & Herzegovina
June 18–21, 2016
Drive to Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina. An overview city tour includes houses of worship reflecting Sarajevo’s historic diversity—among them the Gazi Husrev-Bey Mosque, the Jewish Synagogue, Sarajevo Cathedral, and the Orthodox Church—and sites related to World War I and the 1990s conflict, including the Latin bridge, Svrzo House, the History Museum, Snipers’ Alley, and the WWI Assassination Memorial. In Mostar, explore the ethnically divided city on either side of the iconic Stari Most bridge, a fine example of Islamic architecture. In Medjugorje visit pilgrimage sites where the Virgin Mary appeared in visions to local residents. (3B,2L,1D)

Additional details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.

DETAILS
Activity level: Moderate
Group size: 96 guests
Co-sponsors: Archaeological Institute of America, Stanford Alumni Association, and the Santa Barbara Museum of Art

WHAT TO EXPECT
This is a moderately active trip that is at times physically demanding and busy. Navigating uneven terrain at architectural sites, walking on cobblestone pavement, and standing for up to two hours in museums or other sites are the most strenuous activities. Some locations may have stairs without handrails. In addition, travelers must be able to board the ship via a metal gangplank with rope handrails and get into/out of bobbing tenders for one shore excursion. Daytime temperatures during the trip will generally average in the mid to high 70s F, with occasional rain. Participants must be physically fit, active, and in good health. Participants with medical issues and/or dietary restrictions must make them known to us well before departure, and impairments regarding mobility must be disclosed prior to booking. If you have any questions about the level of activity of this program or your ability to participate, please call HAA Travels at 800-422-1636.

Venetian gondoliers and the Stari Most bridge in Mostar are icons of the pre- and post-trip optional extensions.
Originally built in 1992 and refurbished and redecorated in 2010, Island Sky accommodates all guests in 57 outside suites, each with sea views, queen or twin beds, a sitting room area, flatscreen TV, safe, mini-refrigerator, and an en suite, marble-appointed bathroom with robe, slippers, and hair dryer. Several suites have private balconies. Spacious and finely decorated public areas include a large lounge and elegant bar and a library. The dining room accommodates everyone at one seating, and 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 amenities also include a hairdresser, onboard clinic and doctor, elevator serving all passenger decks, and two sun decks, one with a bar. Island Sky is served by 75 experienced officers and crew.

TO BOOK A TRIP CALL 800-422-1636 OR VISIT ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/HAA/TRAVEL