

TRAVEL INSURANCE is strongly recommended. Karen Gellatly of Gellatly Travel has arranged group insurance for \$233 per person, double occupancy, and \$277, single occupancy, to be paid by a separate check payable to **Gellatly Travel** with the deposit.

DEADLINES

November 10, 2010: The reservation form and the deposit of \$860.00 per person, and the cost of group travel insurance if desired, are due.

January 12, 2011: Airfare is due to Gellatly Travel 115 Shockhoe Slip, Richmond, VA 23219, 1-804-644-6187. gellatly.travel@verizon.net.

January 25, 2011: The balance for land arrangements is due to **Bestway Tours & Safaris**, Suite 206, 8678 Greenall Ave., Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada V5J 3M6. Azmina Pirani or Mahmood Poonja, 1-800-663-0844, bestway@bestway.com.

The liaison for the Mediterranean Society is C. Wayne Tucker, 1-804-732-5279, wtucker@hsc.edu.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

Each participant must have a valid passport that expires later than 6 months following the end of the trip, i.e., after December 4, 2011.

CANCELLATION

All cancellations must be made in writing and received by Bestway Tours & Safaris by the deadlines set out below. A \$500.00 fee will be charged for cancellations received up to 90 days prior to departure. For cancellations received 89 to 45 days prior to departure, the cancellation fee is 30% of the land costs. For cancellations received 44 to 31 days prior to departure, the cancellation fee is 75% of the land costs. For cancellations received less than 31 days prior to departure, the cancellation fee is 100% of the land costs. Once a trip has commenced, no refunds can be made. Once the airline tickets are written, they are non-refundable for any reason.

CURRENCY CLAUSE

The tour price has been calculated @ €1.00 to \$1.25. Should the currency rate differ 2 months prior to the departure date, (a) BTS will bear the difference of up to 5%; (b) over and above 5% could result in a currency surcharge.

RESPONSIBILITY

Bestway Tours & Safaris (BTS) and the Mediterranean Society of America, Inc. (MSA), and all co-operating agencies act only in the capacity of agents for the hotels, airlines, bus companies, or contractors providing accommodations, transportation, or other services. All participants agree that neither BTS nor any of its affiliates or subsidiaries, nor MSA shall be or become liable or responsible for any loss, injury, or damage to person, property, or otherwise in connection with an accommodation, transportation, or other services resulting directly or indirectly from any acts of God, dangers incident to the sea, fire, breakdown in machinery or equipment, or acts of government or other authorities, *de jure* or *de facto* wars, whether declared or not, hostilities, civil disturbances, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantine, medical or customs regulations, defaults, delays, or cancellations beyond the control of BTS or MSA, or for any loss or damage resulting from insufficient or improperly issued passports or other documents. Neither BTS nor MSA shall be or become liable or responsible for any additional expenses or liability sustained or incurred by the tour member as a result of any of the foregoing causes. BTS and MSA reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a tour passenger should such a person's health or mental condition or physical infirmity or general deportment impede the operation of the tour or the rights or welfare or enjoyment of other tour passengers. In this case, refund of unused land tour services is the limit of the liability of BTS and MSA.

Payment of the deposit for this tour signifies full understanding and acceptance of the conditions stated above.

OTHER INFORMATION

The seminar will involve considerable walking, in cities and over ruins. Participants in reasonably good health should have no difficulty. The Mediterranean Society of America, Inc., is a non-profit organization chartered under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Society seeks to provide enriching cultural and educational experiences in pleasant company.



The Mediterranean Society of America

Announces a Seminar in

Romania & Bulgaria: Ancient History, Modern Memory



Nessebar, Bulgaria

May 19-June 4, 2011



The Mediterranean Society
of America

P.O. Box 14793

Richmond, Virginia 23221

"Friends Traveling Together"

www.mediterranean-society.org

RESERVATION

The seminar is open to all interested people. The only requirement is that participants be, or become, members of the Society.

_____I am a member of the Society.

_____I am not a member of the Society and enclose a separate check, payable to The Mediterranean Society, for \$_____ to join.

Contributing membership is \$40 or more.
Family or couple membership is \$35.
Single membership is \$25.
Student membership is \$5.

Please reserve ____ place(s) in the Seminar in Romania and Bulgaria. Enclosed is a check for _____, payable to the **Mediterranean Society**, for the deposit of \$860 per person.

I shall room with _____.
_____I wish to have a single room.

_____Please make air arrangements with the group.

_____I will make my own air arrangements.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone: home (_____) _____

Telephone: office (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Please send this form and your check for the deposit, payable to the **Mediterranean Society** (and if group travel insurance is desired, a separate check payable to **Gellatly Travel**), by **November 10, 2010**, to:
Nancy S. Saylor, Treasurer
Mediterranean Society of America
8701 Cherokee Rd.
Richmond, VA 23235

ITINERARY

Meals included in the price of the trip are indicated by the letters B, L, D. Accommodations will be in the cities named at the end of each day's activities.

Thursday, May 19: Overnight flight from Washington, D.C. (Dulles) to London.

Friday, May 20: Transfer to the plane to Bucharest. Meet the tour escort for transfer to the 5* Inter-continental Hotel and dinner at a local restaurant. **Bucharest.** (D)

Saturday, May 21: Tour of Bucharest, with visits to the Palace of Parliament, the open-air Village Museum, the National History Museum, the National Art Museum, and the Holocaust Museum, with views of other landmarks. Dinner with a folklore show. **Bucharest.** (B, D)

Sunday, May 22: Departure for Sibiu in Transylvania, with a stop at Cozia Monastery. On arrival in Sibiu, a walking tour of the city, including Large Square, Huet Square, Liars' Bridge, Evangelical Cathedral and Brukenthal Museum. Check in at the 4* Ramada Hotel and dinner at a local restaurant in **Sibiu.** (B, D)

Monday, May 23: Visit Calnic for the 13th-century Fortified Church, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (WHS). Continue to Hunedoara to visit the medieval Castle of Corvins. Then to Sibiel for dinner at a local farm house before returning to **Sibiu.** (B, D)

Tuesday, May 24: Visit the Saxon village of Biertan and its Fortress Church (WHS). Then to Sighisoara, the best-preserved medieval fortified town in Romania and the birthplace of Vlad the Impaler (Dracula) (WHS). Walking tour of the town for the Church on the Hill and the Clock Tower Museum with its Torture and Weapons Room, and a stop at the house where Vlad the Impaler was born in 1432. Continue to Brasov for the Gothic Black Church, St. Nicholas Church, and the First Romanian School Museum with its collection of rare books. Check in at the 4* Ramada Hotel in **Brasov.** (B, D)

Wednesday, May 25: Visit the 14th-century castle in Bran, made famous by Bram Stoker's novel as the residence of the vampire count. Continue to Sinaia for the Sinaia Monastery and Peles Castle. Then to Azuga Winery for a wine-tasting before returning to **Brasov.** (B, D)

Thursday, May 26: Travel to the Salt Mine in Slanic Prahova, formed from 14 rooms, some being over 45 meters high. En route to the Romania seaside, cross the Saligny Bridge over the Danube River before arriving at the 3* Ibis Hotel in **Constanta.** (B, D)

Friday, May 27: Visit Histria for its Museum containing Greek, Roman, and Byzantine objects, and the Histria Fortress with the remains of Aphrodite's Temple, the Temple of Zeus, Roman baths, and other public buildings. Return to Constanta for a tour of the former Greek colony of Tomis, the exile site of Ovid, and the Archaeological Museum. **Constanta.** (B, D)

Saturday, May 28: Meet the Bulgarian escort and travel to Balchik on the seaside for the Quiet Nest Palace and its botanical garden before checking in at the 4* Panorama Hotel in **Varna.** (B, D)

Sunday, May 29. After a tour of Varna, including the Cathedral of the Assumption of the Virgin, Archaeological Museum, and Roman baths, travel to Nessebar (WHS) with its remains of Roman and medieval fortress walls, St. Steven and St. Spas Churches, and 18th- and 19th-century houses. **Varna.** (B, D)

Monday, May 30: En route to Veliko Turnovo, the medieval capital of Bulgaria, visit the Madara Horseman (WHS), carved in the 8th century to mark the recognition of the new state by the Byzantine Empire. After a wine-tasting at the Lyaskovets Wine Cellar, check in at the 4* Yantra Hotel and enjoy free time. **Veliko Turnovo.** (B, D)

Tuesday, May 31: Walking tour of the medieval town of Veliko Tarnovo, including its main fortress, Tsarevets Hill. Travel to the beautiful village of Arbanassi for a home-hosted lunch and visits to the Nativity Church and Konstancaliev House. **Veliko Turnovo.** (B, L, D)

Wednesday, June 1: En route to Plovdiv visit the open-air museum at Etara before crossing the Balkan Mountains through the Shipka Pass. Stop at Kazanlak, the center of the rose-oil industry, to visit the replica of the Thracian Tomb (WHS) with its 3rd-century frescoes, and the Big Kosmatka Tomb. Check in at the 5* Novotel in **Plovdiv.** (B, D)

Thursday, June 2: Walking tour of the old town and visits to the Archaeological Museum, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Church of Sts. Konstantine and Elena. Travel to Rila Monastery (WHS), founded in the 10th century, which played a key role in preserving Bulgarian culture and language. The monastery church has frescoes painted by the finest artists from the 19th century. Check in at the 5* Hilton Hotel in **Sofia.** (B, D)

Friday, June 3: The walking tour of Sofia includes the Alexander Nevsky Cathedral, St. Nicholas Russian Church, and the Rotonda of St. George Church, the city's oldest building. Visit also the National History Museum, the Archaeological Museum, and Boyana Church (WHS), one of the most complete and perfectly preserved monuments of East European medieval art. Dinner with a folklore show. **Sofia.** (B, D)

Saturday, June 4: Transfer to the airport for return via London to Washington Dulles Airport.

COST: Land Arrangements:

\$2494 per person, sharing a twin room.

\$577, single supplement

The price includes:

15 nights lodging.

Breakfast and dinner daily, 1 lunch.

Transportation in private, air-conditioned motor coaches.

English-speaking guides.

Entrance fees per the itinerary.

Transfers.

Taxes.

Gratuities for local guides and hotel staff, including portage.

Mediterranean Society expenses.

The price does not include passport fees, personal expenses, extras in hotels, and gratuities for the drivers and tour escorts.

Group Airfare: Currently estimated at \$940. Fuel and security surcharges which are part of the airline fare are subject to change. The surcharges in effect when the airline tickets are written will determine the final airfare cost. (A limited number of seats in the economy-plus section will be \$680 additional.) The airfare may be charged to a credit card. Karen Gellatly of Gellatly Travel is handling the group air arrangements.