Dear Carleton College Alumni and Friends,

I invite you to **join Carleton professor David Tompkins to circumnavigate the Black Sea aboard an elegant small ship that offers a wide range of prices and great value.**

For thousands of years, the Black Sea has been a scenic crossroads for the cultures of Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean, the vast steppes of Russia, and central and southwest Asia. Discover ancient Greek ruins, Byzantine churches, Tartar and Russian palaces, and much more as you **learn about ancient, medieval, and modern history**—from the ancient Greeks to the Ottomans, Russian Tsars, and Stalin.

Begin your adventure in Istanbul, which straddles the continents of Europe and Asia, and **cruise counterclockwise around the Black Sea, with stops in Georgia, Russia, Ukraine, and Bulgaria.** Highlights include:

- Two hotel nights in **Istanbul**, with visits to the exquisite 6th century Agia Sophia, Ottoman Topkapi Palace, 17th-century Blue Mosque, and more.
- **Batumi**, Georgia, a beautiful coastal city boasting impressive Botanical Gardens and an interesting combination of old and new architecture.
- The impressive 14th/15th century Genoese fortress at Sudak, outside of **Feodosiya**, whose walls seem to stretch along the hillside almost as far as the eye can see.
- The elegant seaside town of **Yalta**, whose Livadia Palace was the site of the 1945 conference between Roosevelt, Stalin, and Churchill.
- Evocative sites associated with the Crimean War, such as **Sevastopol's Panorama Museum** and **Balaklava's “Valley of Death,”** plus Balaklava's Naval Museum (once a Soviet nuclear submarine base).
- The grand city of **Odessa**, with its famous Potemkin Steps and splendid examples of elegant 18th- and 19th-century architecture.
- The charming old town of **Nessebur**, Bulgaria, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that was one of the most important Byzantine towns in the western Black Sea.

**Prices start at $5,590 per person for this 15-day program,** including round-trip airfare from eight East Coast gateways with low-cost add-ons from over 60 North American cities, two nights' hotel accommodations in Istanbul and eleven nights aboard ship, an extensive program of excursions, all meals aboard ship (including wine with dinner, afternoon pastries and tea/coffee, and late night snacks), gratuities to ship staff, and more.

Our elegant ship, **Aegean Odyssey**, accommodates about 350 guests and has two spacious dining areas, two lounges, a sun deck with pool and Jacuzzi, and a large theater for lectures. There is a **wide variety of accommodations from which to choose:** from comfortable single and twin-bedded cabins to luxury suites with private balconies.

This program is co-sponsored by other organizations, so I suggest that you reserve your choice of cabin ASAP. Call toll-free **(800) 811-7244** or email **carleton@studytours.org** to hold your cabin and receive a reservation form with complete terms and conditions.

Sincerely,

Frances L. Spangler '91
President, Carleton College Alumni Association

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David Tompkins is an Assistant Professor of History and the Director of the European Studies Program at Carleton College, where he teaches a broad range of courses on European history. In his own research, he specializes in the cultures and societies of Eastern Europe. David spent his undergraduate years at Rice University (with stints in London, Vienna, and the south of France), and did his graduate work at Columbia University. He has lived for extended periods in East-Central Europe, including in Berlin, Warsaw, Krakow, and Moscow, and travels there regularly. He has led two previous alumni tours to Eastern Europe, and looks forward to sharing this Black Sea voyage with our group next fall. Some of the topics he expects to address during the program include the dissolution of the Ottoman Empire and emerging national states, the Russian Empire, and red communism around the Black Sea.
Circumnavigation of the Black Sea
Turkey, Georgia, Russia, Ukraine & Bulgaria
August 29 - September 12, 2013 (15 days)

For thousands of years the Black Sea has been a crossroads for the cultures of Eastern Europe and the Mediterranean, the vast steppes of Russia, and central and southwest Asia. Discover ancient Greek ruins, Byzantine churches, Tartar and Russian palaces, and much more as you learn about ancient, medieval, and modern history—from the legendary voyage of Jason and the Argonauts to the ancient historian Herodotus, from the Russian Tsars to Stalin. Begin and end your adventure in Istanbul, which straddles the continents of Europe and Asia as well as the narrow strait that separates them—the Bosphorus.

Itinerary

Additional, optional shore excursions will be offered.
A full detailed itinerary is available online at go.carleton.edu/adventures

Thursday, August 29, 2013 - DEPART HOME

Friday, August 30 - ISTANBUL, Turkey
Arrive in Istanbul. Transfer to our hotel for a two-night stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Saturday, August 31 - ISTANBUL
AM sightseeing includes the 6th-century cathedral of Hagia Sophia, the Ottoman Topkapi Palace, and the Sultan Ahmet Camii (Blue Mosque). PM at leisure to explore Istanbul on your own. (B)

Sunday, September 1 - ISTANBUL | EMBARKATION
AM tour of the vast Archaeological Museum and the atmospheric Underground (Basilica) Cistern. PM transfer to the port to embark Aegean Odyssey, our home for the next eleven nights. (B,D)

Monday, September 2 - AT SEA
Cruise along Turkey’s northern coast, relax, and enjoy lectures and the ship’s amenities. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 3 - TRABZON
AM excursion to the Sumela monastery, built high in the mountains in the 4th century. PM at leisure to explore Trabzon on your own. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, September 4 - BATUMI, Georgia
Choice of AM tours, either to the Botanical Gardens, covering 279 acres and with more than 1,000 varieties of roses, or to the well-preserved Hellenistic and Roman Gonio fortress. PM at leisure, perhaps to visit Batumi’s vibrant market on your own. (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 5 - SOCHI, Russia *
Choice of AM tours in Sochi, often referred to as the “Russian Riviera,” either to Stalin’s summer home and the 30-acre Dendrarium; or to the Dendrarium, Tree of Friendship, and Museum of Sochi Sports Glory. Cruise in the PM, enjoying lectures and the ship’s amenities. (B,L,D)
Friday, September 6 - FEODOSIYA, Ukraine
AM visit to the remarkable Genoese fortress at Sudak, built in the 14th and 15th centuries and perched high along a cliff top above the sea. PM at leisure to explore Feodosiya on your own. (B,L,D)

Saturday, September 7 - YALTA
AM visit to the Anton Chekhov House-Museum and the Livadia Palace, site of the 1945 conference between Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin. PM photo stop above the scenic Swallow's Nest castle, and tour of the exotic, 19th century Alupka (Vorontsov) Palace. (B,L,D)

Sunday, September 8 - SEVASTOPOL
AM visit to the Panorama Museum, whose circular painting and displays depict the 349-day, 19th century siege of Sevastopol; and drive to Balaklava battlefield, site of the “Valley of Death” Charge of the Light Brigade. PM visit to the underground Balaklava Naval Museum, once a Soviet nuclear submarine base, built into a natural cave in the harbor. (B,L,D)

Monday, September 9 - SEVASTOPOL
AM drive to the archaeological site of Chersonesos, founded by the Greeks in 422 B.C. and later the birthplace of the Russian Orthodox Church. PM at leisure to explore Sevastopol on your own. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 10 - ODESSA
AM walking tour of great sites of Odessa, including the Opera House, Potemkin Steps, Archaeological Museum, and Transfiguration Cathedral (the city’s largest church). PM at leisure in Odessa, perhaps to explore the Pryvoz market. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, September 11 - NESSEBUR, Bulgaria
Cruise in the AM, enjoying lectures and the ship’s amenities. Early PM arrival in Nessebur to explore the beautiful old town, including the Byzantine-style Church of Christ Pantokrator, the 5th century Old Metropolitan Church, and the Archaeological Museum. (B,L,D)

Thursday, September 12 – ISTANBUL, Turkey | DISEMBARKATION | HOME
AM disembarkation in Istanbul and transfer to the airport for flights home. (B)

* Subject to change due to port construction relating to the 2014 winter olympics. An additional day in Odessa may have to be substituted.
Suites, Staterooms & Cabins

Please note that the diagrams are not to scale. The sizes, layouts and bed configurations will vary within a category. Single occupancy cabins are 98 - 138 sq ft.
Rates Include:

- Transfers to and from the ship or hotel are included when you purchase the Cruise/Land/Air Package and travel on group arrival and departure dates;
- 11-night cruise aboard M/V Aegean Odyssey and two hotel nights in Istanbul;
- All meals aboard ship, including house wine, beer or soft drinks with dinner; plus afternoon tea with pastries and late night snacks; and breakfast daily during included hotel stays; bottled water during cruise-based shore excursions;
- Shore excursions as indicated in itinerary;
- All onboard gratuities for restaurant and cabin staff;
- Lectures and discussions by David Tompkins and other onboard experts;
- Porterage of luggage;
- Service charges and port fees, embarkation and local taxes;
- Balcony Class (Categories A-D & CC) passengers also receive a welcome bottle of champagne, refrigerated mini-bar stocked with soft drinks and bottled water, bathrobe, slippers, boutique bathroom amenities and deluxe hotel accommodations during included hotel stays.

Rates Do Not Include: Optional shore excursions; beverages (except as noted above) and other items of a personal nature; passport and visa fees; airport taxes where payable locally; baggage and travel insurance; independent meals ashore; telephone/fax/internet charges; airfare add-ons; and airport transfers for those making their own air arrangements or not traveling on the group dates.

Airfare: Take advantage of our Cruise/Land/Air Package, which provides round-trip airfare from eight East Coast gateways, all government fees, airline surcharges, air ticket taxes and round-trip airport transfers. Low-cost add-on fares of $100 - $200 from over 60 other North American cities are available. Contact us for information regarding available gateway cities.

Cancellation Penalties:

- More than 120 days prior to departure: Full refund
- Between 90 and 119 days prior to departure: 10% of fare
- Between 61 and 89 days prior to departure: 25% of fare
- Between 31 and 60 days prior to departure: 50% of fare
- Between 16 and 30 days prior to departure: 75% of fare
- 15 days or less before departure: 100% of fare

All cancellations must be received in writing by our office. Information on trip cancellation insurance will be sent upon receipt of your deposit.

How to make a reservation:

Please call or email Carleton College Alumni Adventures with your cabin preference, to receive a Reservation Form and Terms and Conditions, and to ask any questions. A deposit of 10% per voyage per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

All suites, staterooms and cabins

have a private bath and/or shower, flatscreen TV, safe, and hair dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Balcony Class staterooms (categories A-D & CC) have additional amenities as detailed in the Rates Include section. The diagrams of the cabins shown are representative. Not all categories are shown. The sizes, layouts and bed configurations will vary within a category. The square footage is average and includes the balcony. Beds may be fixed double (queen size), fixed separate twin beds or twin beds that can be converted into double beds. All outside staterooms/cabins have windows except Category J, which has portholes. Single cabin features include European full size beds. Cabin sizes are smaller than sizes noted for double occupancy cabins.

CATEGORIE A: Owner's Suites.
550 sq ft staterooms located on Lido Deck. Marble bathrooms, dressing area, separate sitting area and private balcony. Convertible twin beds.

CATEGORIE B: Junior Balcony Suites.
310 sq ft staterooms located on Lido Deck. Marble bathrooms, walk-in closet, sitting area and private balcony. Convertible twin beds.

CATEGORIE C/D: Deluxe Balcony Staterooms.
275 sq ft staterooms located on Lido, Bridge and Belvedere Decks. Walk-in shower or bath, sitting area and private balcony. Fixed double bed, separate twins or convertible twins depending on cabin selected. Cabins 807, 808 on Lido Deck are smaller and do not have a sitting area.

CATEGORIE E: Deluxe Staterooms.
215 sq ft staterooms located on Lido and Belvedere Decks. Walk-in shower or bath. Convertible twin beds. Cabins 555, 556 & 563 are smaller but have a fixed double bed and a balcony.

CATEGORIE F: Deluxe Staterooms.
200 sq ft staterooms located on Bridge and Belvedere Decks. Walk-in shower or bath. Convertible twin beds or fixed double bed.

CATEGORIE G: Premium Outside Cabins.
130-150 sq ft cabins located on Lido & Bridge Decks. Fixed twin, convertible twin or fixed double bed(s) with private shower. Views partially obstructed by lifeboats.

CATEGORIE H/I: Premium Outside Cabins.

CATEGORIE J: Standard Outside Cabins.
130 sq ft cabins located on Lido, Bridge, Belvedere and Columbus Decks. Fixed twin beds with private shower. Category I cabins on Bridge deck have two windows but with partially obstructed views. Category J Standard Outside Cabins are similar in size and layout and most have portholes in place of windows.

CATEGORIE K/L: Premium Inside Cabins.

CATEGORIE M: Standard Inside Cabins.
130 sq ft cabins located on Belvedere and Columbus Decks. Fixed twin beds with private shower.
Ship’s Specifications
- Ship’s Tonnage 11,563
- Length 461 feet
- Beam 67 feet
- Draft 20.5 feet
- Cruising Speed 18 knots
- Passenger Decks 7
- 2 Elevators
- Stabilizers 2
- Guest Cabins 216
- Guest - lower beds 408
- Classification: Lloyd’s Register
- Society London
- Ship’s Registry Malta

Ship’s Amenities
- 2 Restaurants plus outdoor terrace dining
- 3 Lounges and 4 Bars
- Theater
- Pool, health spa and jacuzzi
- Library
- Shop
- Internet Center
- Beauty Salon
- Medical Center
- Telephone, Fax & internet via satellite
- Satellite TV, hair dryer & safe in all staterooms/cabins
Includes round-trip airfare from eight East Coast gateways, all government fees, airline surcharges, air ticket taxes and round-trip airport transfers. Low-cost add-on fares of $100 - $200 from over 60 other North American cities are available. Contact us for information regarding available gateway cities.

** Please note: Category GG, I, II and some HH cabins have partially restricted views.

**Singles:** Once the single cabins in the categories listed above are full, double cabins may be purchased as singles at a supplement of 25% (Categories M-L), 30% (K-I), 50% (H-F), 75% (E-A) of the double occupancy fares listed, if available.

**Optional Excursions:** While most shore excursions are included in the cost of your program, when an excursion is called “optional” it is offered at a small additional cost (about $48-68 pp).

**Special Offers:** Note that any special offers are strictly capacity controlled and may be withdrawn from sale at any time.

* Prices and itinerary are subject to change.

### Per Person Prices (USD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CABIN CATEGORY</th>
<th>DECK</th>
<th>DOUBLE OCCUPANCY CABINS</th>
<th>SINGLE CABINS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Cruise/Land/Air Package*</td>
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<td>Cruise/Land only Package</td>
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<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>Belvedere/Columbus</td>
<td>$5,590</td>
<td>$3,695</td>
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<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>$5,890</td>
<td>$3,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>Belvedere</td>
<td>$6,145</td>
<td>$4,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>$6,490</td>
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<tr>
<td>I**</td>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>$6,790</td>
<td>$4,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Belvedere/Columbus</td>
<td>$7,145</td>
<td>$5,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Lido/Bridge</td>
<td>$7,445</td>
<td>$5,550</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Bridge/Belvedere</td>
<td>$7,845</td>
<td>$7,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Lido/Belvedere</td>
<td>$8,145</td>
<td>$6,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Belvedere</td>
<td>$8,590</td>
<td>$6,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Lido/Bridge</td>
<td>$9,190</td>
<td>$7,295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Lido</td>
<td>$9,845</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Lido</td>
<td>$10,545</td>
<td>$8,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                | DECK | Cruise/Land/Air Package* | Cruise/Land only Package |
|                |      | Cruise/Land only Package |
|                |      | Cruise/Land only Package |
| MM             | Belvedere | $6,190 | $4,295 |
| JJ             | Columbus | $7,145 | $5,250 |
| II**           | Bridge | $7,590 | $5,695 |
| HH**           | Bridge/Belvedere | $7,990 | $6,095 |
| GG**           | Lido/Bridge | $8,590 | $6,695 |
| EE             | Belvedere | $8,890 | $6,995 |
| CC             | Lido | $9,590 | $7,695 |

3rd & 4th person in a cabin (limited, call for details) | $4,590 | $2,695 |

Port Fees & Service Charges INCLUDED | $495 | $495 |

Land Credit (no hotels) | N/A | $300 |
RESERVATION FORM

Name #1: ___________________________ Name #2: ___________________________
(as it appears in passport) (as it appears in passport)

Address:
City: __________________ State/Province: __________ Zip: ________________

Home Phone: __________________ Office Phone: ___________________________

Cell: _________________________ Email: _________________________________

Payment Type: □ Check payable to: EOS Passenger Escrow - CCA BlackSea9/13
□ Visa □ MC □ Amex CC#_________________________ Exp. Date__________
3 or 4 Digit Security Code __________ Name on Card

Airfare: Departure City: ___________ (for included Air)

Accommodations: Double: □ one bed □ two beds □ Single □ Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)
Name of shared roommate ________________________________

Category Preference: First Choice __________ Second Choice __________ Third Choice ___________

A deposit of 10% per voyage, per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

Terms & Conditions

Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for whatever reason nor to passengers whose required documentation for entry into any country on the itinerary is delayed or denied. RESPONSIBILITY: Carleton College and its agents, Esos (hereinafter "Sponsors").

Voyages to Antiquity and/or its agents (hereinafter "Operator") assume no liability for failure to provide the services, transportation, lecturers and accommodations referred to in this brochure to the extent that such services and accommodations cannot be supplied due to delays or other causes beyond the control of Operator, which include but are not limited to sickness, epidemics, pandemics, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, and acts of God. In the absence of negligence on the part of Operator, the participant agrees that Operator has no responsibility or liability of any nature whatsoever for damage to or loss of property, or injury to, or death of persons due to any act, omission or negligence of any carrier, hotel, restaurant, bus carrier, tender service, sightseeing company, or any other person rendering any part of the services or ground portions of the itinerary. The participant further waives any claim against Operator and Sponsors for any such damage, loss, injury or death. Operator and Sponsors shall not be responsible for any additional expenses, delays, substitution of equipment, and/or any act or omission whatever by the suppliers of such services, their agents, servants and employees, and the participant hereby waives any claim arising therefrom. Operator and Sponsors reserve the right to decline, accept or retain any participant at any time. Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will not be refunded without further obligation on our part, except when trip cancellation, itinerary changes and/or delays are mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the passenger shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Operator and Sponsors are able to recover on the passenger's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, Operator and Sponsors shall not have any obligation or liability to the passenger beyond the foregoing. All refunds of passenger payments are the responsibility of Esos and/or the Operator, and the participant agrees that the Carleton College bears no financial responsibility for refunding participant's payments. The passenger contract in use by the carriers concerned (when issued)
shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies (such as ship operators and airlines) and the purchaser of this tour and/or passage. Participants are encouraged to purchase airline tickets no sooner than 60 days before the tour begins to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Sponsors and Operator accept no liability for the purchase of non-refundable airline tickets to the tour departure city and return. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. By forwarding of deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and that he/she does not have any mental, physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers. Itinerary: Sponsors and Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary due to weather conditions, availability of anchorage, political conditions and other factors beyond our control without consulting the participants. Participants have no right to any refund or other considerations in the event of these itinerary changes. Rates are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of printing and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, the price of fuel, services and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices. AS A CONDITION OF ACCEPTANCE, EACH PARTICIPANT MUST AGREE TO AND SIGN THE FOLLOWING RELEASE OF LIABILITY: RELEASE. Notwithstanding anything set forth above or otherwise contained herein, the signatory hereby waives all rights, causes of action, and is/are aware that the tour and its activities involve the risk of personal injury or death, and property damage or loss. In consideration of the benefits to be derived from participation in the tour, the signatory voluntarily accepts all risk of personal injury or death and property damage or loss arising from participation on the tour and hereby agrees that he/she and his/her dependents, heirs, executors and assigns, do release and hold harmless Sponsors and the employees, officers, directors, trustees or representatives of Sponsors, from any and all claims, including claims of negligence, illness, personal injury, death or property damage or loss, however caused, arising from or related to this tour. The signatory has read carefully this agreement, and will abide by the conditions set by Sponsors and the Operator as described in the brochure and in the Terms and Conditions of this and other sections as stated herein or elsewhere published. The signatory affirms that he/she has not received or relied on any oral or written representation of Sponsors as a basis for executing this Release.

Signature ______________________ Date ____________

Signature ______________________ Date ____________
General
The following provisions apply to the booking of your Cruise, or CruiseTour and are the terms and conditions that apply upon the acceptance of your deposit by Carleton College Alumni Adventures, its agent Eos (hereinafter “Sponsor”) or Voyages to Antiquity (hereinafter “VTA”). They also cover any hotel or air arrangements made on your behalf by Sponsor or VTA. By making a reservation and paying your deposit you agree to be bound by the provisions contained herein and to accept the terms and conditions of the VTA Passage Contract (cruise ticket), a copy of which may be obtained from Carleton College Alumni Adventures. The provisions herein contain important information on cancellation by the guest, changes in the itinerary, the limitations and exclusions of liability on the part of VTA, the operator of the vessel and of independent contractors, the health and immigration requirements that are your responsibility, and other relevant terms and conditions.

Deposits and Payments
A 10% deposit is required within 7 days of booking. The final balance is due no later than 90 days prior to sailing. Guests who do not make required deposits or final payment at appropriate times are subject to automatic cancellation without notice. Cancellation penalties as indicated on the invoice or as set forth in these Terms and Conditions apply (see Cancellation Policy below). American Express, MasterCard, Visa, and personal checks are accepted for deposits and final payments.

Travel Protection
We strongly recommend that all guests purchase comprehensive Trip Cancellation/Interruption Protection for the full purchase price of the cruise as well as any air and/or land arrangement costs. A brochure for trip cancellation insurance will be sent to you with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.

Cancellation Policy
A full deposit refund is only made when cancellation notice is provided to Sponsor or VTA no later than 120 days prior to the scheduled departure date. Insurance premiums paid to Sponsor or VTA are non-refundable. Any refund of payments will only be made by the same method as received. Guests who cancel for any reason including medical reasons are subject to the following cancellation fees per person based on the total charges made for the Cruise or the Cruise Tour, plus any fees related to the early confirmation of air travel (said fees to be determined at time of cancellation) see chart to right.

Government Fees and Taxes, Fuel and Exchange Rate supplements and Gift Orders are fully refundable regardless of the cancellation notice. If air travel has been purchased and tickets issued all refunds of the charges relating to air travel will be held until the tickets are returned to VTA. Air-related fuel surcharges and government taxes and fees related to the air travel are not subject to a cancellation fee, provided the air tickets are returned. See Air Transportation section for further details.

Changes to a Reservation
Changes to a reservation at any time, including air and hotel arrangements confirmed by Sponsor or VTA, may result in an assessment of administrative fees and service charges by the third party supplier(s) and is beyond the control of VTA. Guests are responsible for any additional costs incurred as a result of these changes. Some changes, including name changes, may be considered cancellations and applicable fees will be assessed.

Itinerary Changes
The cruise and tour programs featured in this brochure are planned many months in advance. Occasionally changes have to be made to the published itineraries both before and after bookings are confirmed as circumstances beyond the control of Sponsor or VTA may require and/or to correct information in the brochure that appears by error or omission. Most changes are minor but occasionally a “significant change” must be made. A “significant change” before departure is deemed to be a change to the initial embarkation or disembarkation port to a different geographical area or a change in the duration of your cruise and tour program by more than 12 hours. Ports of call or timing changes in ports of call are not considered to be “significant changes”. VTA shall have no responsibility or liability for any loss, inconvenience, or expense incurred by guests as a result of any changes or cancellations whether or not the changes are a “significant change.” (See further terms relating to changes and cancellation found in the Passage Contract.) A cruise may be canceled for reasons of force majeure (including but not limited to war, civil unrest, natural disasters, and adverse weather conditions) or in the case a governmental organization issues a specific travel warning in the area where the cruise is to operate. We also reserve the right to cancel a cruise at any time up to ten weeks before sailing if we consider there are insufficient reservations for the cruise to be viable. If a “significant change” or decision to cancel a cruise is made, you will be advised as soon as possible about any alternative arrangements available. You can choose to accept these arrangements or cancel with a full refund. In the unlikely event that a ‘force majeure’ event occurs or a travel warning is issued, after a cruise has started, Sponsor and VTA shall not be liable to pay any compensation for any changes in itinerary or omitted ports of call or shortened or lengthened stays in any port or ports other than refunds received by our suppliers. The ship’s captain is responsible for the safety of the ship, passengers, and crew and has absolute discretion in making any alterations to the itinerary that he considers necessary.

Independent Travel Arrangements
Sponsor and VTA are not responsible with regard to air or land travel or accommodation arrangements made using non-refundable, restricted travel or frequent flyer air tickets or frequent traveler hotel accommodations. This exclusion of liability includes the consequences of delays in the arrival at any airport, hotel, or port location that may occur when guests are using independently arranged air or land travel or when changes in travel arrangements may need to be made due to changes VTA may make to the embarkation or disembarkation ports and the time of embarkation and disembarkation. The Passenger Ticket/Passage Contract contains full terms and conditions for these exclusions. Final Travel
Responsibility
The responsibility of VTA and the operator of the vessel is strictly limited according to the Terms and Conditions set forth in the Passage Contract that you receive prior to embarkation. You are urged to read the Passage Contract carefully. A sample is available to be mailed on request.

Transportation
Onboard the ship is provided solely by the ship operator and pursuant to the Passage Contract. VTA reserves the right to accept or decline any person as a guest for any reason. VTA shall not be responsible for any act, event or omission during the time passengers are not aboard the VTA vessel. VTA acts only as an agent for the supplier of off-ship services such as airlines and other off-ship transportation carriers, meals, shore excursions, accommodations, air ambulance and shore-side physicians. Guests agree not to hold VTA, its owners, agents or representatives liable for any loss, injury, expense or damage which results directly or indirectly from any act or omission, whether negligent or otherwise, of any third party person or firm which is to, or does provide goods or services in connection with the trip or any available option. Without limiting the foregoing, VTA shall have no liability to passengers for the quality of services at, and the condition, cleanliness or safety of a hotel, housing facility, or conveyance, or for any transportation delay, including but not limited to liability for inconvenience, shortened vacation time, additional expenses, or any other kind of damage. VTA expressly disclaims all responsibility of any nature whatsoever for any loss, damage or injury to property or person resulting from air, rail, motor coach or any other form of transportation other than that actually provided by the VTA vessel.

Air Transportation
Sponsor and VTA do not operate, control or supervise any airlines and shall have no responsibility for carriers failing to meet schedules whether or not air tickets were issued by VTA or its designated vendor. Sponsor and VTA are not responsible for any expenses or consequences relating to air transportation and that results from causes including but not limited to inclement weather, strikes, flight cancellations, changes/delays in the ship's schedule or a change/delay in schedule or routing made by a guest, travel agent or airlines. Any changes, including cancellations, requested by a travel agent or a guest to a confirmed flight reservation or issued ticket will incur an administrative fee. Any additional costs incurred by Sponsor or VTA including penalties are made at the guest's expense. Any charges imposed by an air carrier to VTA after an air reservation is confirmed due to provision of incorrect name(s), will be added to the total cost of your cruise or cruise tour. If an airline ticket issued in conjunction with a VTA air program is lost the guest is responsible for the full cost of replacement. Airline tickets are only refundable to VTA and the amount of any refund owing to the guest is determined by VTA.

Services Provided by Independent Contractors
All shore-side tours and services described in this brochure including air, hotel, transfers and excursions are provided by independent contractors. VTA acts solely as ticketing agent for all shore side activities and has no legal obligation or liability of any kind to guests for acts or omissions in connection with or arising out of arrangements with independent contractors, including but not limited to airline carriers, ground/tour operators, and hotels since they are neither agents for nor employees of VTA.

Guests with Special Needs
The cruise and tour programs featured in this brochure include extensive sightseeing and to fully participate each guest must be reasonably fit and have no walking difficulties. Whenever possible VTA will try to accommodate guests with special needs as long as the mobility issues are not an impediment to others on the guided tours.

Luggage Handling
All baggage must conform to and will be handled in accordance with the regulations and restrictions of airlines, government security requirements, and third party suppliers. Charges or fees relating to the carriage and the handling of luggage excluding portage at the pier and to/from the VTA vessel are the guests' responsibility. VTA reserves the right to search guest luggage at any time and to refuse any items that might be considered dangerous. All hand-carried luggage and personal effects are the responsibility of the guest at all times. Sponsor and VTA are not responsible for the loss or damage to guest luggage. Baggage insurance is strongly recommended. Please refer to the Passenger Ticket/Passage Contract for the full details of the VTA Luggage Policy.

Errors & Omissions
While Sponsor and VTA make every effort to ensure the accuracy of information in this brochure and its promotions, Sponsor and VTA reserve the right not to honor any published fares that it determines were erroneous due to printing, electronic or clerical error. Sponsor and VTA are not responsible or liable for any typographical errors, omissions or misprints.

Ship's Registry
The M/V Aegean Odyssey is registered in Malta.