



Dear Far Horizons travelers,

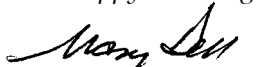
In 2003 and 2004, we are proud to present renowned new study leaders to alluring destinations. In March 2004 Professor Bob Brier (author of *The Murder of Tutankhamen*) leads our tour to Egypt where we stay in delightful hotels (see the photo on right of our hotel in Luxor), and spend four days cruising on scenic Lake Nasr, created when the High Dam was built. Compared to the more than 500 cruise ships plying the Lower Nile, the 125-mile waterway from Aswan to Abu Simbel is sparsely traveled with just five vessels. We cruise onboard a delightful craft decorated in turn-of-the-century style. In January 2004, Felicia Beardsley shows us the archaeology of Micronesia. This exciting journey takes us to five lovely islands in the remote Pacific - Pohnpei, Kosrae, Guam, Yap, Palau, and includes the incredible stone monumental architecture of Nan Madol and Leluh. Join Jennifer Tobin to travel through eastern Turkey. And for the more adventurous - Hike the Inka Trail with Bill Sapp; A Leisurely Walk through Burgundy, France with Maud and Jeremy McInerney; and Lost Cities of the Maya with Federico Fahsen.

We have also designed new trips that are led by scholars with whom you have enjoyed traveling in the past. In May, Dr. E.C. Krupp, the Director of the Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles, shows us the archaeo-astronomy of China. In December, Mike Coe is taking a group into Southeast Asia that includes three days onboard the *Vat Phou*, a charming vessel created out of the colonial past, to cruise into the isolated rainforest of southern Laos. In June 2004, 12 fortunate people will join Maud and Jeremy McInerney onboard a private yacht to cruise along the Turquoise Coast of Turkey. And our favorite Turkish archaeologist, Umit Isin, has agreed to lead two tours to Greece - a land tour in Nov. 2003 and one that includes a week on a yacht in June 2004. Ask for brochures!

If you have email and have not been receiving our weekly email newsflashes, email us with your address. Our newsflashes will keep you up to date not only on our tours, but also special events such as museum exhibits and conferences. And by the way, we never give out our mailing list.

Be sure and visit our web site - www.farhorizon.com.

Happy traveling,


Mary Dell Lucas



A bedroom in our hotel in Luxor

The Old Town of Edinburgh

By Chris Bowles

Earlier this year, a tragic fire engulfed an entire block of Old Town Edinburgh. Historic buildings, some designed by the renowned architect Adam Smith, were unsalvageable. But, as is often the case in archaeology, out of disaster came a potential treasure trove. The Old Town has been continuously occupied since the Dark Ages; yet, due to the density of 17th, 18th and 19th century buildings, the chance to discover the cities' early archaeology is a rarity. The unfortunate clearance of the block has thus provided an invaluable treat. Edinburgh City Council archaeologist John Lawson's team hopes to uncover Medieval and Renaissance remains below the rubble. This will greatly add to our knowledge of how the Medieval Scottish capital ran at an everyday level. Coupled with the recent excavations of the site for the new Holyrood Parliament Building, the last few years have been very exciting indeed for the archaeology of this amazing city. To read more about the ongoing excavations in the Old Town, see the BBC article at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/2571101.stm>. Chris leads our tour to Scotland in July.

**ASK ABOUT OUR TRIPS FOR
THE MARCH 29, 2006 SOLAR ECLIPSE -
EGYPT, TURKEY, KHAZAKSTAN!**

Wiang Kum Kam: *A Doomed City is Discovered in the Suburbs of Chiang Mai, Thailand*

By Richard Ruth

Although Chiang Mai has long been a favorite destination for foreign tourists visiting northern Thailand, the city still conceals quite a few secret sites capable of dazzling those travelers willing to seek them out. And until quite recently, one of these hidden gems was visited only by a small group of archaeology enthusiasts willing to journey the required two miles off the tourist map to explore it. Half-hidden behind a tranquil neighborhood of traditional wooden houses, Buddhist temples, and longyan orchards are the sprawling remains of Wiang Kum Kam, an ancient capital city that briefly ruled over Lanna, the former northern Thai kingdom, some eight hundred years ago. Wiang Kum Kam was established in 1281 AD by Chiang Mai's founder, the revered King Mengrai, but was destroyed after only 15 years when the Ping River suddenly changed course and flooded the city. King Mengrai moved his capital to the other side of the river, in the location of present-day Chiang Mai, after floodwaters inundated his city and rapidly buried it under silt.

It wasn't until 1984 that Thailand's Fine Arts Department sent archaeologists to excavate the site. During the first phase of the project, the team uncovered 20 Buddhist temples used by King Mengrai and his court, but they believe that many more remain buried under the suburban houses of the surrounding Saraphi District.

For years the area has been ignored by Chiang Mai's many tourists as well as by its residents. Until this year, the only activity at Wiang Kum Kam involved the work of student archaeologists or the devotions of elderly Thai women praying at one of the ancient *wihans*. And except for an occasional visit by a few foreign academics, the excavated sites of Wiang Kum Kam remained empty. However, in January of this year the Tourist Authority of Thailand in Chiang Mai announced it was planning a series of cultural exhibitions and Buddhist ceremonies at Wiang Kum Kam in order to introduce locals and foreigners to this little-known treasure. Whether these short-term promotions will draw tourists away from the town's more famous diversions remains to be seen. For now, though, Wiang Kum Kam remains a semi-secret site for history buffs and archaeology enthusiasts willing to "discover" it. *Join Richard in January 2004 on our captivating tour of Thailand that includes Wiang Kum Kam.*



*Golden
Buddha in
Bangkok*

Hidden In The Sand Dunes: *A Roman Port at Küçük Burnaz, Turkey*

By Jennifer Tobin

In 1986 while gathering sand for cement, a local company began bulldozing a series of large dunes that had collected on the seashore where the Küçük Burnaz stream empties into the Bay of Iskenderun on the south coast of Turkey. The dunes, however, proved not to be the expected piles of sand but instead formed a shallow mantle over the remains of an ancient settlement. In 1994 and 1995 a survey of the remains was conducted by a team from Bilkent University of Ankara, Turkey. The bulldozing had exposed at least 20 buildings laid out on a grid plan; among them were two baths, several cisterns and an aqueduct system. Study of the architecture and the finds collected from the site indicate that the remains date from the period of Roman occupation of the region, from the mid 1st century BC through the 7th c. AD. The site's location, on the sea and along a major roadway, along with the nature of the architecture indicate that it served as a way station, or *mansio*, for the army and other travelers, including those traveling by sea. The most intriguing aspect of the site at Küçük Burnaz is that because it was buried by sand sometime after the 14th century AD, it had been virtually lost and its existence had not even been suspected. Through examination of ancient texts, however, the site may be identified as the *mansio* of Catobolos. *Mansiones*, roughly equivalent to modern day motels, are well known from literature but have not been securely identified in the archaeological record in Turkey, thus the study of the remains at Küçük Burnaz is valuable for a better understanding of a little known facility of the Roman world. *Join Jennifer and visit her site on Far Horizons' tour to eastern Turkey.*

Rapa Nui Journal is the quarterly Journal of the Easter Island Foundation. Please request a complimentary copy. Contact Easter Island Foundation, P.O. Box 6774, Los Osos CA 93412. Fax (805) 534-9301; email: rapanui@compuserve.com.



*Happy participant
in Pisac, Peru*

Peru's New Museums

Written by Bill Sapp

The Inka remain the most well known of Peru's ancient cultures. While Inka sites, such as Machu Picchu, are world renowned for their beauty and majesty, many recent visitors are discovering the amazing architecture and material riches that have been recovered from earlier cultures that thrived on Peru's north coast. Particularly rich Lambayeque graves have been found at Batan Grande by Izumi Shimada and the graves of a Moche Warrior-Priest and his assistant, the Bird Priest, were excavated at nearby Huaca Rajada. The Moche burials proved to be the most gold filled tombs since King Tut's was uncovered in Egypt, and some of the finest crafted prehistoric gold jewelry in existence was recovered from them.

Luckily for travelers, two new museums have been built to display this material. The Lambayeque Museum houses the Lambayeque material from Batan Grande. A new building at the Bruning Museum now houses the Moche material from Huaca Rajada. In both museums, the graves of these elites have been recreated in order to display the precious treasures. The older buildings at the Bruning are now free to display some of the other remarkable material that remains part of their collection. Both museums are a regular part of the Far Horizons' *Inkas and Their Ancestors*, which also includes visits to magnificent highland Inka sites including Machu Picchu and Pisac. *Bill Sapp leads this trip and also Hike the Inka Trail.*

The Stelae of Dos Caobas

By Stanley Guenter

The town of Frontera Corozal, on the eastern frontier of Chiapas, Mexico, has unveiled its new community museum. The museum houses a number of informative and educational exhibits relating to the natural and cultural resources and history of the town and its inhabitants. The highlights to be seen in the museum are the two stelae from the nearby archaeological site of Dos Caobas. Known locally as *El Rey*

("The King") and *La Reina* ("The Queen"), the two monuments provide valuable new information on the lives of two of the greatest kings of the ancient Maya.

The *El Rey* monument is carved on both sides and dates to the reign of Itzamnaaj B'ahlam the Great, one of the most famous kings of Yaxchilan. Both sides portray the ruler standing above important captives, one shown with uncovered and exaggerated genitals, a Mesoamerican symbol of humiliation. Accompanying the king on one side of the stela is a secondary noble, probably the local lord of Dos Caobas, who is portrayed performing a victory dance.

The *La Reina* monument portrays Itzamnaaj B'ahlam's son and successor, Yaxun B'ahlam IV, the renowned Bird Jaguar, seated between flanking nobles. Importantly, this stela informs us that this king's mother lived to between 80 and 100 years old, and by extension, that she must have been between 38 and 58 when her son was born! Yaxun B'ahlam only succeeded his father after a ten year interregnum, in which time we know from texts at other sites that another lord, Yopaat B'ahlam II, ruled the city. The *La Reina* monument now provides us with yet further evidence that Yaxun B'ahlam was a very minor son of his father, and that he likely struggled against a number of brothers and half-brothers to attain the throne. The Frontera Corozal museum is included on the Far Horizons' *Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya*, as is a visit to the incredible ruins of Yaxchilan. *The May and July trips are led by Stanley Guenter.*

Romans in Burgundy

By Jeremy McInerney

Over two thousand years ago the Roman legions of Julius Caesar subdued the last Gallic prince to resist them — Vercingetorix, chief of the Averni. The site of Vercingetorix's last stand was Alesia, a hill-top *oppidum* (fortified town) protected by its own cliffs and a palisade. From the top of the hill one can still see the valleys where Caesar's men built their camps and erected a double wall to besiege the Gauls.

In the years after Gaul's pacification Alesia became a prosperous Gallo-Roman town, famous for its manufacturing and its silver-plate industry. Today, the remains of the provincial town are open to visitors. One can see the Roman theatre, the basilica where the town council and courts met, as well as the artisans' quarters. A highlight of the site is the underground temple of Ucuëtis, a local Gallic deity. Other Gallo-Roman temples were a shrine to the goddess of horses, Epona, and the Mother Goddess. In the residential quarter one can still see the remains of the hypocaust used to heat the house.

Later, the town of Alesia had a Merovingian basilica, one of the earliest Christian churches in France. The town became famous in the 18th century for a play showing the martyrdom of St. Reine, a performance reenacted by the townsfolk each year. The town was excavated thanks in part to the generosity of Napoleon III, who saw in Vercingetorix a model of the valiant and indomitable Gallic chieftain. Two millenia of history can be seen on a single hilltop. *Undiscovered France: A Leisurely Walking Tour through Burgundy — travel with Jeremy & Maud McInerney in July 2003.*

The Buried Army of China's First Emperor Marched to the Tune of the Sky

By E. C. Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory in Los Angeles

An army of more than 7500 lifesize terracotta statues, discovered near the city of Xian in 1974, is regarded as a marvel of ancient Chinese art. The infantry, horsemen, chariot drivers, archers, and officers all were buried on the flanks of a monumental earthen pyramid, the tomb of China's first emperor, Qin shi Huang di. The tomb is rectilinear and oriented cardinally, and the army ranks are also aligned by the cardinal directions. These directions-true north, east, south, and west-originate with the fundamental motion of the sky, its daily and nightly rotation, and the rich literate tradition of Chinese civilization confirms its mobilization of celestial symbolism on behalf of imperial power. Although Qin's massive tomb is not yet excavated, the historian Si ma Qian documented the emperor's burial chamber. Writing about a century after Qin's death, in 210 B.C., he described a heavenly ceiling on which "all the constellations" were depicted.

This tradition of starry ceilings in royal tombs continued for more than a thousand years, and celestial symbolism and seasonal ritual activated the imperial architecture of traditional China as late as 1912, when the Qing dynasty ended and the Republic of China was inaugurated. Throughout China's history, its rulers relied on astronomers to extract information from the sky for the regulation of the calendar, for timing rituals, and for divining heavenly intent.

Astronomy was subsidized and institutionalized as a tool of the state, and foundations of the oldest documented observatory site can still be seen near Luoyang. Chinese annals inform us that Zhang Heng, who also invented the world's first seismometer, worked at Luoyang's Han-dynasty Lingtai two thousand years ago.

In the thirteenth century, Guo Shoujing was doing the best astronomy in the world, and one of his observatories, a truncated brick pyramid at the "end of the road," in the village of Gaocheng, is almost intact. Additional evidence of China's imperial astronomy is also encountered in the magnificent bronze instruments at Purple Mountain Observatory in Nanjing and at the Ancient Observatory in Beijing. The elegance, craftsmanship, and design of these instruments qualify them as fine art.

Travel with Dr. Krupp on UCLA's Under China Skies: Ritual, Symbol, and Astronomy in Traditional China in May 2003 and march with Qin's buried army at Xian, ascend the observatory platforms at Luoyang and Gaocheng, inspect the celebrated instruments in Nanjing and Beijing, evaluate the celestial symbols in the neolithic rock art of northeast and southwest China, and encounter many other off-trail wonders of the Middle Kingdom, including its fabled pandas and the gargantuan and recently restored rock-cut Buddha at Leshan.



Far Horizons group at the Taj Mahal

Romantic Mystery solved by Archaeology?

By Daniel Ehnbon

The Taj Mahal in Agra has been a destination for travelers for centuries and for as long as tourists have been visiting they have been told that Shah Jahan, the Mughal emperor who built the Taj for his beloved wife Mumtaz Mahal, intended to build a matching tomb of black marble across the river. The story claims he was prevented from doing so when he was imprisoned by his son and successor, Aurangzeb, who deposed him in 1658. The tale has long been dismissed as a romantic fiction, but recent archaeological activity in the area across from the Taj has found remains that suggest it may be true. It is also true that the Taj needs no companion in its perfection, but now one can view it from the ramparts of the Agra Fort just as Shah Jahan did from his luxurious prison and imagine another perfectly proportioned cluster of domes rising on the horizon. *Join Daniel Ehnbon in December on Far Horizons' tour to India and see the Taj Mahal.*

Film of Hadrian's Wall

By Chris Bowles

The scenic beauty of Hadrian's Wall provides an almost inexhaustible source of photos and moving images. But despite the amazing scenery, few have attempted to present the whole story of the wall itself to the public. Two European filmmakers will attempt to fill this vacuum this summer. The Germany based filmmakers of Boundary Productions will be filming a unique documentary about the wall. Boundary Productions intends to present the Wall through the eyes of the frontier soldiers and their

families who guarded Britannia against the threat of northern "barbarians." But don't worry, the stories of the Picts and Britons living beyond the limits of Roman control will be featured as well. To learn more about this exciting new film, visit www.archaeology.de. Travel on *Through the Glass Darkly: An Archaeological Pub Crawl of Great Britain* in September with Chris Bowles and keep a smile on your face-you might be under the camera's eye.

Schedule of Trips

TURKEY

May 23 - June 7, 2003	Eastern Turkey with Dr. Jennifer Tobin	\$5,395.00
Aug 28 - Sept 14, 2003	Turkish Treasures with archaeologist, Umit Isin	\$5,695.00
May 21 - June 5, 2004	Eastern Turkey with Dr. Jennifer Tobin	\$5,495.00
June 12 - 26, 2004	Sail the Turkish Sapphire Seas with Drs. Jeremy & Maud McInerney	CALL
Aug 27 - Sept 13, 2004	Turkish Treasures with archaeologist, Umit Isin	\$5,895.00
Sept 17 - Oct 4, 2004	Elegant Turkey including a week on a yacht.	CALL

THE MIDDLE EAST

Sept 12 - 28, 2003	Iran with Dr. Cuyler Young	\$5,695.00
May 23 - June 7, 2003	Hidden Splendors of Syria with Dr. Philip Stanley	\$4,295.00 + air
May 31 - June 13, 2003	Grandeur of Petra, Splendors of Jordan with Dr. Gary Rollefson	\$3,995.00 + air
May 14 - 30, 2004	Iran with Dr. Holly Pittman	\$5,895.00
May 21 - June 5, 2004	Hidden Splendors of Syria	\$4,395.00 + air
May 29 - June 11, 2004	Grandeur of Petra, Splendors of Jordan with Dr. Gary Rollefson	\$3,995.00 + air

INDIA, CHINA and SOUTHEAST ASIA

May 23 - June 12, 2003	Archaeo-astronomy of China	\$4,995.00
Sept 23 - Oct 13, 2003	Himalayan Kingdoms: Ladakh and Bhutan	\$6,995.00
Nov 8 - 25, 2003	Angkor Wat and Laos with Dr. Michael Coe	SOLD OUT
Dec 2 - 20, 2003	Angkor Wat and Laos with Dr. Michael Coe	\$6,695.00
Dec 26, 2003 - Jan 13, 2004	India with Dr. Daniel Ehnborn	\$6,495.00
Jan 17 - Feb 2, 2004	Thailand with Richard Ruth	\$3,995.00
Sept 2004	Himalayan Kingdoms: Ladakh and Bhutan	CALL
Oct 30 - Nov 17, 2004	Angkor Wat and Laos	\$6,895.00
Dec 31, 2004 - Jan 18, 2005	India with Dr. Daniel Ehnborn	\$6,795.00
Jan 8 - 26, 2005	Angkor Wat and Laos with Dr. Michael Coe	\$6,995.00

EUROPE

July 13 - 27, 2003	France: Walking Tour of Burgundy with Drs. Maud & Jeremy McInerney	\$4,495.00 + air
Jul 27 - Aug 10, 2003	The Riches of Scotland with medievalist, Christopher Bowles	\$4,095.00 + air
Sept 18 - 30, 2003	An Archaeological Pub Crawl of Great Britain with Christopher Bowles	\$3,995.00 + air
Sept 2004	Mediterranean Crossroads: Sardinia & Malta with Dr. Nicholas Vella	CALL
Oct 4 - 18, 2003	Sensational Sicily with Dr. Marshall Becker	\$5,295.00
Nov 1 - 15, 2003	Glorious Greece with archaeologist, Umit Isin	CALL
June 6 - 20, 2004	Isles of Greece with archaeologist, Umit Isin	CALL
July 24 - August 7, 2004	The Riches of Scotland with medievalist, Christopher Bowles	\$4,195.00 + air
Sept 16 - 28, 2004	An Archaeological Pub Crawl of Great Britain with Christopher Bowles	\$4,195.00 + air
Oct 2 - 16, 2004	Sensational Sicily with Dr. Marshall Becker	\$5,695.00

AFRICA

Oct 4 - 19, 2003	Ethiopia & Easter festivities with Dr. Michael DiBlasi	\$4,295.00 + air
April 23 - May 9, 2003	Wonders of Tunisia	\$4,495.00
March 15 - 31, 2004	The Majesty of Egypt with Prof. Bob Brier and Pat Remler	\$6,795.00
April 7 - 23, 2004	Ethiopia & Easter festivities with Dr. Michael DiBlasi	\$4,495.00 + air
Oct 2 - 17, 2004	Wonders of Tunisia	\$4,595.00

SOUTH AMERICA and POLYNESIA

June 6 - 21, 2003	Peru: The Inkas and their Ancestors with Dr. Bill Sapp	\$4,995.00
July 12 - 28, 2003	The Archaeology of Bolivia with Dr. Bill Sapp	\$4,995.00
August 15 - 28, 2003	Hike the Inka Trail in Peru with Dr. Bill Sapp	\$4,695.00
Dec 30, 2003 - Jan 16, 2004	Micronesia with Dr. Felicia Beardsley	CALL
Jan 9 - 25, 2004	Peru: The Inkas and their Ancestors with Dr. Bill Sapp	\$5,195.00
Jan 30 - Feb 8, 2004	Easter Island and the Tapati Festival with Dr. Steven Fischer	\$4,495.00 + air
July 9 - 25, 2004	Peru: The Inkas and their Ancestors with Dr. Bill Sapp	\$5,195.00
July 10 - 26, 2004	The Archaeology of Bolivia	\$5,195.00
Aug 13 - 26, 2004	Hike the Inka Trail in Peru with Dr. Bill Sapp	\$4,795.00

MEXICO and CENTRAL AMERICA

May 24 - June 1, 2003	Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya with Stanley Guenter	\$3,895.00
May 31 - June 13, 2003	The Olmecs with Dr. Kent Reilly	\$4,595.00
July 11 - 21, 2003	Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan	\$3,795.00
July 26 - Aug 3, 2003	Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya with Stanley Guenter	\$3,895.00
Oct 24 - Nov 2, 2003	Trail of the Shaman, including Day of the Dead in Guatemala	\$3,995.00
Oct 31 - Nov 10, 2003	Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan	\$3,795.00
Nov 7 - 16, 2003	Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya with Dr. Marc Zender	\$4,095.00
Dec 20 - 28, 2003	Christmas in Oaxaca with Stanley Guenter	\$2,895.00 + air
CALL	Ancient Maya Queens and Modern Maya Women	CALL
Jan 8 - 18, 2004	Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan	\$3,895.00
Feb 13 - 22, 2004	Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya with Dr. Armando Anaya	\$4,095.00
Mar 27 - Apr 6, 2004	Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan	\$3,895.00
April 3 - 12, 2004	Lost Cities of the Maya with Federico Fahsen	\$3,995.00
May 21 - May 30, 2004	Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya with Stanley Guenter	\$4,095.00
June 26 - July 9, 2004	The Olmecs with Dr. Kent Reilly	\$4,695.00
July 10 - 20, 2004	Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan	\$3,895.00
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Oct 30 - Nov 9, 2004	Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan	\$3,895.00
Nov 5 - 14, 2004	Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya with Dr. Marc Zender	\$4,095.00
Dec 18 - 26, 2004	Christmas in Oaxaca with Stanley Guenter	\$2,995.00 + air

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Micronesia

By Felicia Beardsley, PhD

Scattered like pearls loosed from a string and stretched across nearly 2,000 miles of azure seas in the western Pacific, the exquisite islands of Micronesia represent a highly diverse region — culturally, linguistically, biologically, and geologically. Though the boundaries are artificial, set by 19th century map-makers intent on imposing order in our world, today this region is a colorful stewpot. Micronesia is very different from the rest of the Pacific — it is a *mélange* of the peoples and traditions of Asia, Melanesia and Polynesia, yet it is also culturally distinct. Its known history is sparse, tentatively pieced together through a limited number of archaeological and ethnographic investigations, coupled with scattered remnants of oral histories.

Within a few hundred years of settlement, these islands were racing for control of the sea-trade routes; regional centers emerged and were vying for power and credibility; monumental architecture and landscape modifications were used to symbolize the power and wealth of these centers; even the oral histories were awash with mythic and historical accounts of inter-island conflicts, culture heroes, and cultural patrimony. Today, the terraces of Palau, the monumental architecture of Leluh and Nan Madol, and the vast stone villages now swallowed by the jungle stand as mute testimony to a rich cultural legacy that ultimately developed into



*Nan
Madol*

complex cultural systems rivaling the accomplishments of the Maya and Inka Empires of the New World and the Egyptian and Han Dynasties of the Old World, and all with the accompanying intrigues that would make even the Portuguese blush. *Travel with Dr. Felicia Beardsley to Micronesia in January 2004.*