



“You can see foreign countries and cultures in two ways:

1. from the outside, aboard the gigantic floating city blocks they call cruise ships, or
2. from the inside, with culturally informed and attuned travel companies like Far Horizons.

As a study leader on many Far Horizons trips to Southeast Asia, accompanied by some of the nicest and savviest tourists in the world, I learned as much as they did about the richness and vibrancy of these ancient and modern civilizations. But beyond the learning experience, it was truly a lot of fun for all concerned! In fact, I've enjoyed my Far Horizons experience so much that I've also traveled as a participant on their tours to India and China. ”

Michael D. Coe

World renowned Mayanist and Khmer specialist, and author of *Breaking the Maya Code*, *The Maya*, and *Angkor and the Khmer Civilization*.

Dear Travelers,

I am delighted to dedicate this newsletter to those participants who travel with Far Horizons repeatedly – thank you! In fact, we have included articles from some of our frequent travelers in which they eloquently describe their experiences exploring remarkable destinations with our fabulous study leaders. Don't miss these evocative accounts of their adventures.

There are only a very few spaces remaining on the September trip led by Professor Jonathan Phillips of History Channel fame. I am so pleased that people are excited about our Crusades trip! By the way, look for Professor Jonathan Phillips' new book, *Holy Warriors: A Modern History of the Crusades*. We plan to design more itineraries relating to the medieval era, so keep watching our webpage.

Are you a Bob Brier enthusiast (do you know anyone who isn't!)? There are still a few spaces left on Bob's *Egypt in Rome* May 10-20, 2010, and *Oases of Egypt* Oct 29 - Nov 15, 2010. Plus *Bob Brier heads to Sudan in March of 2011*. Be sure and read what former travelers have to say about Bob's trips and register soon!

With this newsletter we begin a new series written by Heather Stoeckley and Sara Barbieri, two members of the Far Horizons team who travel several times each year with our groups as tour manager. As you read their 'post cards', we hope you will gain an insight into our trips from another perspective, and will look forward to their tales in future newsletters. And, please, call them! They are always eager to discuss their experiences and make suggestions to you about where you may want to travel next.

Speaking of which, where would you like to travel next? If you want to plan a special trip with your family or a close group of friends, give us a call and we will help you create a once-in-a-lifetime custom trip. Or is there somewhere you want to go with a tour group because you enjoy the camaraderie but are looking for something a little different? We will have new tours in 2011 to Bolivia, Ecuador and the Galapagos, and, mark your calendars, in June of 2011 Dr. E. C. Krupp of the Griffith Observatory will lead a *solstice tour to the Four Corners region*. We are also researching future trips to Morocco, Bulgaria, Croatia, and the 'Stans'. Intrigued? Give us a call...

Have you gone to our award-winning website recently? We have created a new design and hope you are enjoying the results. If you peruse our website frequently (and we certainly hope you do), you will note that, besides the new look, we are designing new pages. Please visit our new Frederick Catherwood Society page to learn of the benefits we offer once you become a Far Horizons Frequent Traveler. Under News & Events (be sure to browse the drop down menu) you can see all our past newsletters, learn about Far Horizons' news and find listings of upcoming conferences, lectures, seminars, and other events that may be of interest to our intellectually curious travelers. *By the way, if you can not see the dropdowns, upgrading to a (free) newer version of Windows Explorer will make them visible.* You can now access our BLOG (<http://farhorizons.com/blog/>) through the website, where you will find client testimonials, travelogues and additional pictures on featured trips.

Never hesitate to call and request brochures as we are always adding new trips we know will tempt you. Remember, we encourage you to leap from your armchair and travel!

Happy traveling!

Mary Dell Lucas
Founding Director

A Custom Itinerary for Family & Friends to North India

By Janet Braziel

Thank you, Far Horizons, for crafting the perfect trip to Northern India for my family and friends. Your personal attention accommodated our various work and school schedules and unlocked an amazing and enchanting country. Our guide, Ajay Dudy was a delight. He was knowledgeable, unflappable and watched out for all of us 24/7. I am already planning to return.

I can't stop thinking, talking and reading about this amazing country. Of course there is the Taj Majal, truly the most perfect building ever conceived. And drifting at sunset in a boat on the Ganges in Varanasi, watching as the priests and Hindu



faithful performed ceremonies to put the river to bed and to cremate the dead was unexpectedly moving. My mind returns most often, however, to our days in Rajasthan. It is a short flight from New Delhi but one enters a completely different time and way of life. In January the fields are golden with blooming mustard plants. Sometimes a small stone temple is set like a jewel in the middle of the field. Just riding on the bus was a source of endless fascination for us. The roads were choked with motor rickshaws, women in saris and men in turbans, cows, camels pulling huge wooden carts overflowing with crops, ancient Ambassador sedans, jalopies rigged with the motors that power water pumps during the monsoon and brightly painted and decorated trucks. It was colorful chaos. The palaces and gardens were opulent enough to justify the phrase, "oriental splendor".

The Fateh Garh heritage hotel in the countryside near Udaipur was a dream. We were greeted by musicians and festooned with flowers before being shown to our rooms. From our balcony we looked out over old Udaipur and Lake Pichola. We had dinner on the terrace where we watched the sun set and enjoyed one of our most memorable meals. In Jaipur, our hotel was a former palace. In the morning, musicians sat on a pavilion in the water playing morning ragas on sitar and tabla. We were guests at a New Year's Eve celebration – the theme of the party was an Indian wedding and the large Mughal garden where it was held was lavishly decorated with designs made from flower petals. We wandered, sipping champagne while a tightrope walker, musicians, dancers, a fortuneteller, a magician and a dancing horse entertained us. How incredible it was.

I had a dinner party at home last weekend and wore the embroidered silk *salwar kameez* I had tailored in Jaipur with colorful bangles from Delhi covering both arms. I used one of the many beautiful tablecloths I brought home from Varanasi and served *masala chai* with dessert. As you can see, I can't let go of India.

Travel to North India on Gods, Temples, and Archaeology of India from January 9 – 23, 2011.



Postcard from Petra

Dear Seth,

In a word, Petra is perfect! I already had great expectations of what was to come on a visit to this renowned place, forged from seeing innumerable postcards on Petra and always hearing how "spectacular" it is. So I started the day with childlike anticipation, hoping that Petra in real life would live up to all the images swirling around in my head.

As I approached the entry to the *siq* – the narrow gorge leading up to Petra, two-thirds of a mile in length – an awareness of the fact that I was entering a different world swept over me. The striated sandstone walls, in varying hues of pink, yellow and tan, towered above, dwarfing everything in their presence. People appeared the size of ants, boulders seemed like small pebbles. During a quick respite from the trek, our guide asked me to put out my hand for an experiment. After crushing a small rock and mixing it with a couple of drops of water, he instructed me to paint it on my cheeks. "Blush to match your surroundings," he said. How apropos!

In awe, I meandered amidst through this gently winding chasm where every curve offered my eyes a new marvel. And then, just when I thought I might never get there, I saw it... the brilliant crown-shaped top of the Treasury façade, peeking out at me from behind the rock. The "ohhhs" and "ahhhs" of fellow onlookers were deafening. I continued towards this magnificent monument cautiously, not wanting to miss out on *any* photo opportunities. As I shifted position so that more of the façade was visible, the columns and intricate detail of this rock-cut design came into focus and were more beautiful than I could have ever imagined. Against the now shaded outline of the canyon walls, the rock glowed a brilliant pink and I understood why they call this place "The Rose City." More to come... Love you!

Heather

The Legacy of Mongolia's Great History & Culture

By Lauren Bonilla

Scattered across seemingly endless grasslands and pristine river valleys lie the hidden treasures of Mongolia's epic past beckoning discovery and exploration. The now tranquil and sparsely populated Mongolian steppe was once the center of the world's greatest nomadic empires ruling the known world from mobile tents and on horseback. The nomadic peoples of these great empires—the Hun (Xiongnu), Turk, Uighur, and Mongols—made an indelible impact on the world.



In Mongolia's northernmost province, Hovsgol, are found mysterious deer stones whose meanings are just beginning to be understood by archeologists. Some of the most spectacular expressions of Bronze Age megalithic art anywhere in the world, deer stones depict creatures with spiraling antlers leaping into the heavens. Cutting edge research by the Smithsonian Institute and the National Museum of Mongolian History suggest that the stylistic animal-motif designs of these ancient monuments may have migrated across Eurasia, inspiring Scythian artwork, and could have even traveled as far as the Bering Sea to influence Eskimo ceremonial arts. Mongol imperial power flourished in the Orkhon Valley region,

from the 6th to 14th century. Strolling through the temple grounds of Erdene Zuu Monastery while listening to the enchanting sounds of Buddhist monks in prayer one imagines what this place may have been like when it was the capital of the Mongolian Empire, Karakhorum. It was once one of the most religiously tolerant and cosmopolitan cities in the world where scholars, ambassadors, and merchants from across Asia, Africa, and Europe congregated to exchange ideas, form alliances, and trade goods.

When Genghis Khan assembled all the united tribes of Mongolia in 1206, he passed the Great Law that declared his nation must always care for the land and culture of its people. Traveling to Mongolia, you enter a land which Genghis Khan's Great Law continues to protect.

Travel with Lauren Bonilla on Essential Mongolia: Deer Stones, Steppe & Monasteries, August 23 - September 6, 2010.

Travels in South India

By Barbara Sanborn

In 2009, I returned to India with Far Horizons, this time traveling to Southern India which is distinctly different from the North. The state of Kerala is known as the Eden of India and is tropical, colorful, and aromatic, the scent of spices filling the air. Trucks are elaborately painted from grill to tailgate with images and graffiti in vivid and flamboyant colors. Kerala elephants look a lot like the trucks! We encounter several religious processions, as we explore Cochin, in which the elephants are painted, bejeweled and adorned with head-dresses. Even an old Jewish synagogue is unexpectedly colorful, a lovely shade of pool blue. I am carried away by all the color.

The laid-back Coconut Lagoon resort can only be reached by cruising through the Kerala backwaters. We can see residents in the villages and fields along the shore. Small fishing boats offer us the catch of the day including the biggest, bluest shrimp I have ever seen. In the evening we are entertained with ritual dances performed by actors transformed into gods and goddesses. The performance includes stylized dance, songs, and astonishing eye movements that transfix the audience.

Leaving the serenity of the Kerala backwaters, we drive to Madurai. The countryside is lush and green with tea plantations blanketing the hillsides. We passed ox carts on the narrow mountain roads. In the rice paddies below, farmers prepare their fields with ox-drawn ploughs.



Nothing can prepare you for the grandeur of Hindu temples. The garishly painted towers are covered with statues—gods as mortals, gods as gods, erotic goddesses, mythical beasts, legendary heroes, and sacred motifs. Thousands participate in the evening ceremony at Meenakshi Temple. A procession carries the statues of the gods around the temple's interior three times. Once the parade begins, the pilgrims accompany the temple elephant, the sacred temple bull, a hand-carried silver chariot – musicians, priests, and worshippers all chanting and praying. Everything about the ceremony is intense and unexpected.

When traveling with Far Horizons, I am always surprised by what I see, comforted by good food and memorable accommodations, grateful to catch up with old friends, and glad to meet new people seeking the center of the universe and the end of the road.

Travel with Professor Sara Dickey to South India on South India: Temples & Traditions from January 24 - February 8, 2011.

Angkor & The Greater Angkor Project



The Far Horizons tour to Cambodia and Laos presents a rare opportunity to travel across the region in the company of a renowned archaeologist who has been at the forefront of Southeast Asia archaeology for over a decade. The Greater Angkor Project (GAP), the largest international, multidisciplinary research program at Angkor, has used information from shuttle flyovers and NASA radar imagery to create a new map of ancient Angkor, and other groundbreaking new results are being revealed on almost a monthly basis. Finally, scholars are beginning to come to terms with the perennial questions that have perplexed visitors and scholars alike for more than a century. On the Far Horizons' trip, you will gain an insider's view into the latest discoveries being made in this great city.

- Go behind-the-scenes into the great repositories of Khmer art and artifacts at Angkor Conservation which is normally off-limits to the public
- Tour works-in-progress by other archaeological teams associated with the University of Sydney, such as massive temple reconstruction projects.
- Visit active excavations being carried out by the Greater Angkor Project, and engage with various members of the multinational team
- Travel by small boat to see the small temple on the West Mebon in the huge Western Baray, the largest reservoir in Angkor.
- Enjoy talks by specialists working in Angkor.
- Receive daily briefings on research breakthroughs and emerging issues related to our understanding of the history and archaeology of the Khmer – the kind of insider knowledge that won't make it to history or guide books for years to come.

Travel with Dr. Damien Evans, Deputy Director of the Greater Angkor Project on Discover Angkor Wat and Laos, January 7 - 23, 2011.



Postcard from Xinjiang

Dear Mom,

I'm hooked! Xinjiang province is another world, almost another time, donkey carts vying with cars and trucks as we travel from Dunhuang (such gloriously painted caves) to Kuqa and Turpan, onward to Kashgar, and finally to Hotan. Each of the oases towns we come to appears like a dazzling green beacon in an otherwise desolate desert landscape boasting swaths of vineyards, historic city centers, weekly markets (Kashgar's market has been running continuously for over 2,000 years), vibrant modern sectors, and stall after stall of freshly baked *naan* (each baker using their own stamp to emboss the bread with an intricate pattern).

Last night the sands from the Taklamakan desert blew, swirling and scattering themselves along the sidewalks and streets of Hotan. This morning, the skies were clear and the winds had subsided. I woke early anticipating today's adventure, enjoyed a quick breakfast of *naan*, jam, and tea in the lobby before boarding one of the jeeps that waited in the hotel's roundabout. At 7:30 a.m., tucked into our seats, our caravan departed, carrying a chattering and excited group toward Rawak, an ancient Buddhist pagoda, a jeep and a camel ride away in the desert. The camels, awaiting us at our rendezvous point in the desert, patiently folded themselves to the ground so that we could hoist ourselves into the saddle. Leisurely loping up and down the dunes, they seemed to know exactly, in this landscape of endless sands and the occasional shrub, in which direction to amble. There was a silence, a certain low and mystical light as the sun rose above the horizon, the serenity and stark beauty of the panorama making us thoughtful. We floated back in time. The endless days of journeying endured by former Silk Road travelers were conjured and we were grateful that, though spectacular, this ride was of relatively short duration! The experience of the pagoda appearing mirage-like from the sands was compelling – though in ruins, it continues to offer an evocative glimpse of another era, a moment in history worth appreciating. Running to dinner... Love you, Mom.

Sara

Far Horizons Schedule of Trips

All Dates and Prices Subject to Change • Revised 2/11/10

EUROPE & TURKEY

Cyprus and Malta

On Cyprus see Salamis, Kyrenia, Kourion and the mosaics of Paphos, as well as the "painted churches" of the Troodos Mountains. On Malta, explore the UNESCO World Heritage site of the capital, Valletta, as well as the Hypogeum and the megalithic temples of Malta and Gozo.

April 10 - 23, 2010 with Professor John France \$9,995.00

April 10 - 23, 2011 \$9,995.00

Egypt in Rome: Including Turin and Florence

Visit Turin's museum with the second largest Egyptian collection in the world, thirteen obelisks still standing in Rome, and four UNESCO World Heritage sites – the historic centers of Rome and Florence, the Royal House of Savoy in Turin, Pompeii and Herculaneum and more.

May 10 - 20, 2010 with Professor Bob Brier and Patricia Remler \$9,295.00

Greece and Turkey: A Voyage through History

Travel through history aboard a private yacht to the remote Dodecanese Islands of Greece - the healing island of Kos, Nisyros, Tilos, Simi, Rhodes and beyond.

May 14 - 29, 2010 with Professor Jennifer Tobin \$10,995.00

May 15 - 30, 2011 with Professor Jennifer Tobin \$10,995.00

Turkey: Temples, Tombs & Shipwrecks: A Private Yacht Journey with the Institute of Nautical Archaeology

We invite you to join George Bass, "father of underwater archaeology", for a very special 50th anniversary trip along the western coast of Turkey to celebrate the re-excavation of the ancient shipwreck, Gelidonya, the site where underwater archaeology was born. Explore the wonders of ancient Turkey and its shipwrecks, seeing first hand what the next generation of nautical archaeologists is discovering.

July 30 - August 10, 2010 with Professor George Bass \$8,895.00

Pre-Trip Extension July 28 - 31, 2010 \$2,395.00

The Riches of Scotland

From the English border to the Orkney Islands, explore prehistoric stone circles and chambered tombs, glorious abbeys and cathedrals, and medieval castles.

August 5 - 20, 2010 with Dr. James Bruhn \$8,495.00 + air

Turkish Treasures

As guests of the archaeological teams, view six ongoing excavations including the UNESCO World Heritage site, Hattusha, former capital of the Hittite Empire, Yazilikaya, and Sagalassos. Visit Ephesus, Aphrodesius, Troy, and the Lycian capital of Xanthos.

August 14 - 31, 2010 with archaeologist, Umit Isin \$9,995.00

Turkey: Sail the Sapphire Seas

Sail to the ancient cities along the Turkish Caria and Lycia coasts including Arykanda, Demre, Theimussa, and Pinara, the fishing village of Kalkan, and the ghost town of Kayaköy.

September 12 - 27, 2010 \$9,995.00

An Archaeological Pub Crawl of Great Britain

A unique cultural pub-crawl through southern Scotland and England offers a rare chance to explore prehistoric stone circles and chambered tombs, and walk in the footsteps of Roman armies along Hadrian's Wall.

September 17 - 29, 2010 with Dr. James Bruhn \$8,495.00

Glorious Greece

Explore the celebrated remains of the many civilizations that have passed across Greece. After Athens, travel through the Peloponnese Peninsula, visit the rugged northern part of the country to view Olympia, Delphi, Vergina and more. Travel by ferry to the islands of Crete and Santorini.

October 9 - 23, 2010 with Dr. Kyra Nourse \$9,995.00

THE MIDDLE EAST & ARABIA

The Grandeur of Petra, The Splendors of Jordan

Jordan has captivated travelers and conquerors alike with its beauty and mystery. View the celebrated mosaics of Madaba and prehistoric 'Ain Ghazal' where huge, unique statues were discovered. Finally, spend three days exploring the 2,500 year old Petra, full of amazing rock carved buildings.

May 23 - June 5, 2010 with Professor Gary Rollefson \$8,995.00

May 22 - June 4, 2010 with Professor Gary Rollefson \$8,995.00

Hidden Splendors of Syria

View the monumental remnants of past Greek, Roman and Byzantine occupants - Apamea, Palmyra, and Dura Europus - and walk in the footsteps of the crusaders at Chastel Blanc, Krak des Chevaliers, and Saladin's Castle.

May 22 - June 6, 2010 with Dr. Amr Al-Azm \$9,295.00

May 6 - 21, 2011 with Dr. Amr Al-Azm \$9,295.00

In the Path of the Crusades: Turkey, Syria, Jordan and Israel

In Istanbul walk along the city walls breached by the army of the Fourth Crusade. In Syria view the many spectacular castles and religious places of worship created by the Crusaders. And in Israel, see the incredible remains of the crusader city of Akko and the many crusader-era sites in Jerusalem.

September 1 - 17, 2010 with Professor Jonathan Phillips \$9,995.00

May 15 - 31, 2011 \$9,995.00

Iran: Empires of Everlasting Fire

Follow the path of the author of the first human rights charter, Cyrus the Great, and explore the sites of Pasargad and Persepolis. Travel to Isfahan, Shiraz, and witness the way in which previous empires have left their indelible mark.

April 24 - May 11, 2011 with Dr. Ruth Young \$9,995.00

Oman: Hidden Jewel

Visit the only ziggurat found in Arabia, impressive fortress-castles that are reminders of Oman's unruly past, and four UNESCO World Heritage Sites (Aflaj irrigation systems, Bat tombs, Bahla Fort, and The Land of Frankincense). Journey to the 3,000-year-old city of Ubar, recently found using NASA Satellite imagery.

January 2011 Call

Continued on next page

Far Horizons Schedule of Trips

All Dates and Prices Subject to Change • Revised 2/11/10

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EGYPT AND AFRICA

Oases of Egypt

Travel through the Great Sand Sea of the western desert of Egypt that runs for hundreds of miles west of the Nile to the border with Libya. Explore the five verdant spring-fed oases, Siwa, Dakhla, Bahariya, Farafra, and Karga, and a sixth, the Fayoum, that was created during the time of the pharaohs.

October 29 - November 15, 2010 with Professor Bob Brier and Patricia Remler \$8,995.00

The Majesty of Egypt

Travel from Cairo to Luxor to Aswan to Abu Simbel, and experience awe-inspiring events as Far Horizons opens sites closed to the public - the richly-painted tombs of Seti I and Nefertari, the Red Pyramid and Sakkara's Unas Temple, and the burial chamber of the Great Pyramid.

February 6 - 22, 2011 \$12,495.00

Ethiopia: The Wonders of the Horn of Africa

In its mountainous isolation Ethiopians developed a sophisticated culture based on a deep love of religion. Explore the fascinating remains of this culture, including the underground churches of Lalibela, join the colorful Easter celebrations in Axum, visit Gondar and Bahir Dar, and enjoy a boat ride on Lake Tana.

April 12 - 26, 2011 with Dr. Neal Sobania \$9,295.00

Harar Extension April 25 - 28, 2011 \$995.00

THE AMERICAS

The Southwest of the USA

Travel with renowned Southwest specialist, Steve Lekson to the remote areas of the Four Corners region of the USA. Visit the Native American villages of Acoma and Zuni. See the exquisite remains of the Anasazi people at Canyon de Chelly, Mesa Verde, Hovenweep and Chaco Canyon. And explore the rarely visited early mission churches of Quarai, Abo and Gran Quivira.

May 9 - 17, 2010 with Professor Steve Lekson \$3,245.00 + air

The Archaeology of Peru

From the fabled Inka sites of Machu Picchu, Pisac and Ollantaytambo to the colonial glory of Lima and Cuzco, experience the wealth of Peru's archaeological and historical past and visit scientists in the field as they contribute to its ongoing study.

July 21 - August 1, 2010 with Dr. Bill Sapp \$6,995.00

Nasca Line Extension August 1 - 3, 2010 \$1,355.00

The Maya

Travel with Professor Michael D. Coe on a unique trip designed for people with an intense interest in the Maya. The journey focuses not only on the ancient Maya with visits to Copan, Tikal, Takalik Abaj, and El Baul, but also the world of today's Guatemalan Highland Maya and their unique Maya-Christian culture.

November 2 - 14, 2010 with Professor Michael D. Coe \$8,495.00

Capital Cities of the Ancient Maya

Travel through Central America and Mexico's Chiapas state to explore the capital cities of the ancient Maya. See Copan, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, Quirigua, Tikal's towering temples, Yaxchilan, the delicate paintings at Bonampak, and Palenque, arguably the most beautiful of the cities.

March 3 - 13, 2011 with epigrapher, Stanley Paul Guenter \$7,495.00

Hidden Maya Cities of the Yucatan

Visit the well-known ancient cities of Chichén Itzá, Palenque and Uxmal. Walk through the open mouths of huge earth monsters in the Rio Bec area, and learn the area's history including how the city of Calakmul was in a continuous battle with Tikal as the two super-powers struggled to dominate the Maya World.

April 2 - 17, 2011 with epigrapher, Stanley Paul Guenter \$8,995.00

INDIA, SOUTHEAST ASIA and CHINA

Gods, Temples, and Archaeology of Ancient India

India is a country that delights the senses with its copious smells of incense, cacophony of sounds, and wealth of ancient architecture. Visit ten UNESCO World Heritage Sites including the incomparable Taj Mahal and Khajuraho with its beautifully decorated temples. Explore Varanasi, Aurangabad and Jaipur.

January 9 - 23, 2011 \$8,595.00

China: Along the Silk Road

See the renowned Mogao Caves' ornate Buddhist cave paintings, explore one of the world's oldest continuous markets in Kashgar, learn about the Uighur culture, and travel through the Taklamakan Desert by camel to see the earliest Buddhist pagoda in Khotan. Visit Turpan, Kuqa and Urumqi.

August 7 - 23, 2010 with Dr. Anthony DeBlasi \$9,895.00

Essential Mongolia: Deer Stones, Steppes & Monasteries

Visit the Valley of the Kings to view the mysterious deer stone monuments. Travel to Lake Khovsgol one of the world's most ancient lakes and enjoy a local Naadam Festival. Visit Kharkhorin, the 13th century site of the Mongolian Empire's capital and home to Erdene Zuu, an important Buddhist Monastery. See the Przewalski horses, explore Amarbyasgalant Monastery, and discover the vibrant capital city of Ulaanbaatar.

August 23 - September 6, 2010 with Lauren L. Bonilla 9,895.00

South India: Temples and Traditions

Travel into an area of India which has managed to retain the essence of its mystique despite invasions both historical and modern. From Hampi and Chikmagalur to Karaikudi and Tanjore, the temples visited contain some of the greatest architectural and sculptural achievements in India.

January 22 - February 8, 2011 with Professor Sara Dickey \$9,995.00

Angkor Wat and Laos

An exciting 17-day trip through historically-rich Cambodia and Laos that includes five full days at Angkor, and the bustle of Phnom Penh. In Laos, see Vat Phou, certainly one of the most spectacular of the Khmer cities, and the World Heritage city of Luang Prabang, and the capital, Vientiane.

January 7 - 23, 2011 with Dr. Damian Evans \$9,995.00

OCEANIA

Chile and Easter Island's Tapati Festival

Explore Easter Island's immense stone statues, perplexing petroglyphs, and vibrant cave paintings. The trip is timed to include the wonderful Tapati Festival, a time of revelry and feasts and of honoring the culture - both past and present. Also included are three days exploring Santiago, Chile and nearby coastal towns.

February 1 - 12, 2011 with Dr. Sidsel Millerström \$7,995.00 +air

MEMORIES OF VOYAGE THROUGH HISTORY:

A Journey by Yacht through Turkey and Greece's Dodecanese Islands

By Maud McInerney



Mustafa's Zucchini Fritters

4 middle-sized zucchini, peeled
3 smallish onions
Two eggs
Some flour and salt
Dried mint, red pepper

Grate the zucchini and the onion together. Then add two eggs and enough flour to make a stiff batter, along with 2 tsp of baking powder. I think he put in about a cup or so of flour, but since Mustafa (predictably) measures nothing but does it all by feel, it was hard to tell. Add 2 tsp of dried mint and about the same of red pepper and salt.

Shape this into patties and fry (deep frying isn't necessary) in some fairly light oil (not olive oil—the taste would be too heavy) until they are golden.

We are onboard for nine days, and for almost every one of those days, Mustafa produces three meals, plus tea. Breakfast is cucumber and tomato and Turkish cheese and some kind of egg (scrambled or fried) and sublime peaches, skinned before they come to the table. Lunch is various; today, we had *köfte*, little Turkish meatballs beautifully spiced, roasted zucchini and eggplant, a huge green salad with tomatoes and lettuce and shreds of purple cabbage and lots of dill, and beautiful pasta, just lightly sauced with tomato and olive oil.

Dinners are even more elaborate. We start with the *mezes*: *esme*, a spicy tomato smodge that you eat on bread, *patliçan salat*, which is garlicky smoky eggplant mash, *cacik*, like Greek *tzatziki* but with a mysterious green leafy thing in it instead of cucumber, and if we're very lucky, also *sigarete börek*, long tubes of pastry filled with soft cheese, or the divine zucchini fritters. The challenge is not to go into a food coma before the main course comes to the table. One night, each one of us got a whole sea bream, caught fresh that day and then grilled over a tiny hibachi at the front of the ship. Or it might be roast chicken, or lamb chops and grilled vegetables. Dessert comes last: fresh fruit usually (cherries and apricots and melon) but sometimes also halvah, which sends the group into raptures.

Mustafa's kitchen cannot possibly be more than 6 feet by 6 feet, and it's often a day's sail away from anything resembling a village shop let alone a supermarket, and yet out of it comes some of the most extraordinary food I've ever eaten. Maybe I'll miss Mustafa most of all; no one else has ever peeled my peaches for me.

You, too, can experience Mustafa's cuisine onboard our chartered yacht on either *Voyage through History: Greece & Turkey, May 14 - 29, 2011*, or *Sail the Sapphire Seas, September 12 - 27*. Read more on the *Far Horizons* blog: <http://farhorizons.com/blog/>.

Mustafa's Kitchen

Our boat is a ninety-foot *gület*, two-masted and fairly broad beamed, designed for coastal sailing. There are eight cabins for guests and inside the ship is entirely wood paneled and has made-to-order Turkish carpets that announce its name: Arif Kaptan C. Utgur, who is 21, graceful, at least half-cat and apparently capable of teleportation, is the person you shout for whenever you need something (a kayak; a drink; to have the sails hoisted). And for twenty years, Mustafa has been the cook on this ship.

FEATURED TRIPS

ANCIENT SOUTHWEST USA

Travel with Dr. Stephen Lekson, the archaeologist whose theories are creating exciting new thoughts on the ancient Southwest. Professor Lekson has excavated throughout the Four Corners region including several sites visited on the trip, is the author of many books and articles on Southwest archaeology, and has been a featured speaker on numerous radio and television specials. The itinerary includes spectacular sites - Acoma Pueblo, reputedly the oldest continuously occupied town in the U.S.; Zuni Pueblo to enjoy a private talk by the painters of the murals in the mission church; Hovenweep where stunning stone towers protect water sources; Canyon de Chelly with its dramatic cliff dwellings; and famous Mesa Verde and Chaco Canyon.

Tour dates: May 9 - 17, 2010

Tour cost: \$3,245.00

CRUISE WITH GEORGE BASS IN TURKEY

Join Professor George Bass, known as the Father of Underwater Archaeology and founder of the Institute of Nautical Archaeology, for a cruise along the Turkish coast onboard a unique 16-cabin *gulet*, or Turkish wooden yacht. In celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of modern underwater archaeology, visit the sites where INA has excavated, join INA staff members for a festive banquet in Bodrum's Castle of St. John, learn about recent underwater archaeological discoveries, and enjoy many specially-arranged private events during the cruise.

Tour dates: July 30 - August 10, 2010

Tour cost: \$8,895.00

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Why I Travel with Bob Brier...

By Karen Robinson

"Been there, done that." was my attitude after a very nice vacation to Egypt. That, however, did not take into account Dr. Bob Brier. Dr. Bob came to my attention through his books and audio and video programs in which he demonstrates a rare ability to bring characters and events to life from a distance of 5,000 years and 7,000 miles. What an experience it would be to have him as a teacher!

I had to sign on to go back to Egypt with a Far Horizons tour. The one concern was that my expectations were too high. After two Far Horizons Egyptian tours with another tour pending, it is a pleasure to report that Dr. Bob does not disappoint. He provides resources for those of us who like to prepare for a tour. He brings knowledge, great enthusiasm, and a dash of humor to every aspect of the tour. Far Horizons arranged access to wonderful sites usually unavailable to the public. Dr. Bob's tours are a great experience for the first-time visitor and an opportunity for further exploration and discovery for the returning traveler.

Travel with Egyptologist Bob Brier on Egypt in Rome, May 10 - 20, 2010 and Oases of Egypt, October 29 - November 15, 2010.



Dr. Bob Brier

By Amelia Smithers

For me there will only be one way to visit Egypt and that is with Professor Bob Brier and his charming and erudite partner Pat Remler. Bob's enthusiasm for Egyptology is infectious. I had always had it at the back of my mind to visit Egypt and then a fellow Far Horizons traveler in Cambodia told me about Bob's Teaching Company course on Egyptology and his trips with Far Horizons. I ordered the Teaching Company course and, immediately after completing it, signed up for Bob's Majesty of Egypt trip. What fun we had – from scrambling around in the Great Pyramid to taking the night train to Aswan to visiting the great temple of Abu Simbel and cruising the waters of Lake Nasser!

The next year I was back for Far Horizon's unique Nile Cruise on board the 1920s paddle steamer SS Karim.... And we certainly received the royal treatment! The highlight for me of this very relaxing way of visiting the ancient sites between Luxor and Aswan was Bob's hieroglyphs class on the deck of the boat. Now I am hooked on Egyptology and this year will be visiting Rome with Bob and Pat on a Far Horizons' Egypt in Rome trip that will explore the Egyptian heritage in Italy. Then, later this year I will be heading back to Egypt, again with Bob and Pat, to explore the archaeology of Egypt's desert oases. I heartily recommend Bob's Egypt trips to anyone who has ever dreamed of exploring the Land of the Pharaohs. He is simply the best!

**SAVE THE DATE
Sudan with
Bob Brier
in March 2011**