

Seagull Tours International

in samewerking met die Departement Antieke Studie, Universiteit van Stellenbosch
en die Departement Klassieke Tale, Universiteit van die Vrystaat

BIED AAN

ITER SYRIACUM

A TOUR FOR ANYBODY INTERESTED IN THE ANCIENT WORLD TO
SYRIA and SOUTHERN TURKEY

Departing Johannesburg 29 November – Arriving back 10 December 2009

ENKELE HOOGTEPUNTE

SOME HIGHLIGHTS



In **Damascus** we visit the National Museum which houses the finest collection of archaeological artefacts from around Syria. We continue to “Suq al-Hamediyeh”, and then continue to the Umayyad Mosque, named for Islam’s first ruling dynasty. It is one of the great monuments to the ingenuity of early Islam. *Ons besoek ook “Reguitstraat”, oftewel die Romeinse “Via Recta” en ook die kapel van St. Ananias.*

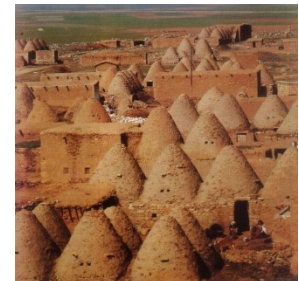
Palmyra was the city of the legendary Queen Zenobia, and also a caravan trade-station for centuries: we see the Temple of Bel, Triumphal Arch, Colonnade Street, theatre, agora, tetrapylon, nymphaeum, the military camp of the Roman emperor Diocletian, the Temple of Baal-Shamem and the “Valley of Tombs” with tomb houses, the Hypogeum of the Three Brothers and the funerary towers.



Abecedary Ugarit		Earliest Evidence of Alphabetical Order	
shown above	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100	Alphabetical Order	Credits
missing symbols	a b g h d h w z h t y k	Alphabetical Order	Credits
Photo of the 1948 discovery on museum display in Sgrita by M. D'Armi. Digitized by S. Bett. Table by D. Kelley		source documents: www.unicon.org/abecedary-ugaritic.gif www.unicon.org/alpha-earliest-order.html	

Ugarit is ‘n beroemde hawestad uit die Bronseeu waar van die eerste vorme van ‘n alfabet ontdek is en met tekste wat ons vertel van die god Baäl. Daarna besoek ons **Ebla** (Tell Mardikh), beroemd vir die groot versameling kleitablette, wat ons inlig oor die administratiewe stelsel van ‘n vroeë Siriëse stadstaat. **Aleppo** is die 2de grootste stad in Sirië, eeue lank ‘n handelstad op die sy-roete. Hierna reis ons na Turkye en oornag in **Urfa**, wat volgens tradisie met Abraham verbind word. Ons besoek **Sultantepe**, ‘n belangrike plek in antieke **Carrhae**, waar tablette ontdek is wat vertel van die legendariese koning **Gilgamesj**.

The village of **Harran** with its beehive-like dwellings was the site of the temple of the moon god Sin and famous throughout the ancient world for its star readers and savants. On our way to **Antioch** we pass **Gaziantep** which is one of the modern provinces of south eastern Anatolia, but also one of the oldest cities of Hittite origin. It is the center of pistachio nut cultivation in Turkey and also has extensive olive groves and vineyards.



Die ruïnes van die ou stad **Belkis** (Zeugma) dateer uit die Hellenistiese, Romeinse en Bisantynse eras. Die stad was een van die wat munte gehad het met die naam van die stad self daarop. Onlangse opgrawings het 'n vertrek blootgelê wat vermoedelik deel was van 'n Romeinse huis; 'n mosaïek met 'n uitbeelding van Dionysus is ook ontdek.

The biblical city of **Antioch** is situated in a fertile area on the Asi (Orontes) river. Called **Antakya** today it was once the capital of the Seleucid kings, known in Roman times for the life of luxury and pleasures that they enjoyed. The city became one of the centres of early Christianity; we know that it was visited by St Barnabas and St Peter. But the city was also famous as a centre for artistic, scientific and commercial activities. The Hatay museum is of particular interest since it houses one of the richest collections of Roman mosaics in the world.



Tarsus, die hoofstad van die Romeinse provinsie Cilicia, lê tussen die Taurusberge en die Middellandse see. Die ou stad was ongeveer 16 km van die kus af geleë op 'n waterryke vlakte langs die Cydnusrivier. In 64 v.C. word dit deel van die Romeinse Ryk toe die Romeinse generaal, Pompeius, die seerowers verdryf wat die stad gereeld lastig geval het. Die stad was ook bekend daarvoor dat die 3de grootste universiteit in die antieke wêreld hier geleë was – naas dié van Athene en Alexandrië!

After this visit we fly to **Istanbul** from Adana. The whole of the next day will be free to explore the many markets, historical sites and museums on your own until we leave for the airport for the return flight to Johannesburg late in the evening.



Tour price in terms of present exchange rate (as on 23 February) is approximately R 20 300.00

The above price includes:

Return airfare from Johannesburg to Istanbul, as well as return airfare from Istanbul to Adana
Buffet breakfast with lunch or dinner daily
Qualified tour guide
Transport in an air-conditioned bus
All entrance fees
Accommodation in 3 and 4 star hotels

The above price excludes:

Travel insurance ± R 280	Airport taxes ± R 2 200
Personal items & pocket money	Gratuities / Tips ± R 800
Visa for Syria R 205	Visa for Turkey ± R 130 (€10; obtained on arrival)

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