TREASURES OF TURKEY
Escorted by Dr. James Phillips

September 7—25, 2011

Organized by Seven Wonders Travel
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www.sevenwonderstravel.com
Dear Field Museum Supporters,

It is with great pleasure that I invite you to join The Field Museum on an exclusive and private tour of Ancient Turkey. With its cultural mélange, Turkey offers Greco-Roman ruins, Byzantine art and Ottoman architecture - as well as Babylonian tiles, Hittite cuneiform tablets and Trojan gold. You will be exploring the magnificent archaeological sites of ancient Turkey accompanied by The Field Museum’s own Dr. James Phillips, who has spent 45 years working in the region. Dr. Phillips is a Curator in The Field Museum’s Department of Anthropology, and Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he directed the joint Anthropology Ph.D. Program for The Field Museum and UIC.

He has great familiarity with and expertise with the archaeology of the eastern and southern Mediterranean, and he has had projects in Turkey, Israel, Palestine, Egypt, Sudan, and Tunisia. His specialties deal with the Upper Pleistocene and early Holocene prehistory of the Mediterranean basin, revolving around the development of modern human behavior and its subsequent advancement. To this end, Dr. Phillips has worked in several regions of the southern Levant and north Africa, namely sections of the Nile Valley, Tunisia, Central Sudan, the Negev and Sinai, Judean Desert and the Plaines of Antioch in Turkey.

This tour promises to be the most in-depth tour of Turkey ever offered by The Field Museum. Turkey boasts an extraordinary blend of ancient and new, straddles both Europe and Asia, offers vibrant landscapes, and embodies a character all its own. You will discover Istanbul's many treasures, including Topkapi Palace, Hagia Sofia, the Blue Mosque, and even a cruise on the Bosphorus. You will travel back through the layers of history with journeys to Cappadocia, with its rock-carved churches at Goreme; Ephesus, the best preserved classical city in the eastern Mediterranean; Pamukkale, with its white castles and hot springs; and Pergamon, with the via Tecta (or Sacred Way) and the colonnaded street leading to the sanctuary and Antioch. Turkey and her people welcome visitors with genuine warmth and hospitality.

In Istanbul you will hear a lecture by Ilber Ortayli, one of Turkey's most admired historians. As head of the Topkapi Museum he will shed light on the history of the palace and the Ottoman Era.

In addition to being escorted by The Field Museum’s scholar, Dr. James Phillips, you will be accompanied by one of Turkey's best known guides who holds an advanced degree in Turkish history. A skilled team, including a tour representative and agency owner will travel with you to assure that every detail is handled perfectly.

Whether this is your first or your fifth visit to Turkey, we are confident that you will return from Turkey with a deeper understanding of her culture and people and enriched by all you have seen. This is truly a journey of a life time and we are pleased to be able to offer it to you, our supporters and friends.

Best Regards,

Laura Biddle Clarke
Vice President, Institutional Advancement
James L. Phillips, Ph.D., is a Curator in The Field Museum’s Department of Anthropology, and Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where he directed the joint Anthropology Ph.D. Program for The Field Museum and UIC.

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His work in Turkey for the past five years is oriented toward understanding the stone production and technology of Bronze and Iron Age towns in the Plaines of Antioch and adjacent regions.
07 September 2011—Wednesday

Depart Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport via Turkish Airlines, departing at 10:20 p.m. and arriving Istanbul’s Ataturk International Airport the following day (10 h 45 m).

(Meals in Flight)

08 September 2011—Thursday

Arrive Istanbul International Airport where Field Museum members will have exclusive VIP meeting service at the arrival gate. You will be assisted through the passport and customs control area through a priority line. Next, you will be assisted with your visa purchase. (We will ask you to submit a current copy of your visa upon registration.) There will be no need for American passport holders to have their visa prior to arrival in Istanbul.

You will be escorted to the baggage claims area where luggage will be taken from the belt and escorted to your private motor coach. (Seven Wonders Travel tags will be mailed prior to departure and must be on all checked luggage to assure proper handling.)

Transfer to your hotel in Istanbul, the Four Seasons. The hotel is a blending of the traditional dimensions of East and West, and reflects the spirit and culture of the magical city of Istanbul. It offers a spectacular setting overlooking the Bosphorus, just minutes away from the historic landmarks of the Old City, including Hagia Sophia, the Blue Mosque and Topkapi Palace.

Overnight Four Seasons Hotel.

(Meals in Flight)

09 September 2011—Friday

Discover the Ottoman Relics of Istanbul—Visit the Topkapi Palace & Harem Section . . .

This unforgettable visit to Topkapi Palace will take you through the history of the Ottoman Empire. Topkapi Palace was the former imperial residence and the seat of government during the Ottoman Empire. Today, the palace is a one-of-a-kind museum with one of the largest collections in the world of Chinese and Japanese porcelain and includes the treasury of the Royal Family, with the Topkapi dagger and the Spoonmaker’s diamond, one of the largest diamonds in the world.

The Imperial Harem occupied one sections of the private apartments of the sultan; it contained more than 400 rooms. The harem was home to the sultan’s mother, the Valide Sultan; the concubines and wives of the sultan; and the rest of his family, including children and their servants. The harem consisted of a series of buildings and structures, connected through hallways and courtyards.
Karakol, which means "police station", is located inside the Topkapi Palace between the Church of St. Irene and the palace walls. Karakol restaurant serves gourmet Ottoman cuisine in an old Ottoman building which was used as a police station in the 19th century.

A synthesis of traditional Turkish and Ottoman cuisine, Karakol Restaurant offers its customers the experience and expertise born of a return to Ottoman cuisine and takes its Bosphorus guests on a nostalgic journey into the past. It is a magical setting to remember always.

*ILBER ORTAYLI, Turkey’s most admired historian sheds light on Ottoman Era*

Ilber Ortaylı (1947) is a leading Turkish historian, Professor of History at Galatasaray University in Istanbul and at Bilkent University in Ankara. Since 2004, he has been the head of the Topkapi Museum in Istanbul.

**Topic: History of Topkapi Palace**

As the son of a Crimean Tatar family who fled Stalin's persecution and deportation, he was born in a refugee camp in Bregenz, Austria and came to Turkey when he was 2 years old. He graduated from Ankara University and completed his postgraduate studies at the University of Chicago under Professor Halil Inalcık and at the University of Vienna. He obtained his doctorate at Ankara University in the Faculty of Political Sciences. After his doctorate, he attended the faculty of the School of Political Sciences at Ankara University. In 1979, he was appointed as associate professor. In 1982, he resigned from his position, protesting the academic policy of the government established after the 1980 Turkish coup d'état. After teaching at several universities in Turkey, Europe and Russia, in 1989 he returned to the Ankara University and became professor of history and the head of the section of administrative history.

*Discover the Byzantine & Ottoman Relics of Istanbul— Hagia Sofia, The Blue Mosque, Underground Cistern, and Hippodrome*

The earliest of Istanbul’s churches, Hagia Sophia, was constructed during the reign of the Emperor Constantine in basilica form, with a wooden roof. It was then the cathedral church of the city, and named Megala Ekklesia. From the 5th century onwards it became known as the church of Divine Wisdom - Hagia Sophia. The original church burned during an uprising on the 20th of June, 404. It was rebuilt during the reign of Theodosius II, and re-opened on the 10th of October, 415. The second church was destroyed by fire during the Nika uprising in 532, and was completely restored with the support of the Empress Theodora, wife of Justinian after that uprising had been suppressed.

The emperor commissioned the architects Anthemios of Tralles and Isidor of Miletus to rebuild it. According to the account of the Byzantine historian Procopius, the emperor ordered a building of great stature and magnificence. He used his imperial authority to ensure that nothing was lacking in the building of it. Eight columns of red porphyry were brought from the Diana Temple at Ephesus. Other marbles were obtained from classical sites and from some of the finest marble quarries of the Byzantine world.
A thousand masons and ten thousand apprentices worked on the building, the aim being to finish it as soon as possible. The work began in 532 A.D. and was completed in five years, 11 months and 10 days, and the church was consecrated on the 27th of December, 537 by the Emperor Justinian.

The Blue Mosque was designed and built in the early 17th century and since then has become a famous silhouette of Istanbul with its six minarets. It owes its name to the glazed earthenware Iznik tiles (21,043 tiles) that face the lower walls of the mosque and those of the balcony.

It was built between 1609 and 1616, during the rule of Ahmed I. Like many other mosques, it also comprises a tomb of the founder, a madrasa and a hospice. The design of the Sultan Ahmed Mosque is the culmination of two centuries of both Ottoman mosque and Byzantine church development. It incorporates some Byzantine elements of the neighboring Hagia Sophia with traditional Islamic architecture and is considered to be the last great mosque of the classical period. The architect has ably synthesized the ideas of his master Sinan, aiming for overwhelming size, majesty and splendor.

Pope Benedict XVI visited the Sultan Ahmed Mosque on 30 November 2006 during his visit to Turkey. It marks only the second papal visit in history to a Muslim place of worship. During his tour, the pontiff turned towards Mecca in a gesture of Muslim prayer and conducted "Silent Prayer." Having removed his shoes, the Pope paused for a full two minutes, eyes closed in prayer, standing side-by-side with Mustafa Çağrıcı, the Mufti of Istanbul and Emrullah Hatipoğlu, the Imam of the Blue Mosque.

The Pope "thanked divine Providence for this" and said: "May all believers identify themselves with the one God and bear witness to true brotherhood." The Pontiff augured that Turkey "will be a bridge of friendship and collaboration between East and West" and he thanked the Turkish people "for the cordiality and sympathy" they showed him throughout his stay, saying, "he felt loved and understood."

Known as the Blue Mosque, Sultan Ahmed Mosque is one of the most impressive monuments in the world.

The Underground Basilica Cistern is a great underground chamber used in times of siege and is the largest and most beautiful Byzantine cistern of its kind of several hundred lying under the city of Istanbul. During Ottoman times it was used by weavers and its name came from a law school that was housed in a basilica nearby.

The Byzantine Emperor Justinian ordered the that columns (336 of them), lying unused from dilapidated temples, be used to hold up the roof of this underground cistern. It has a capacity of 80,000 cubic meters, and is from the 6th century. After the conquest of the city by the Ottoman Turks, it lay forgotten until it was re-discovered in 1545. It was then used to water the gardens of Topkapi Palace.
In the 1980’s the water was drained, electric lights were installed and today it has a rather eerie and mystical ambiance.

**Hippodrome Square** was originally constructed by the Roman Emperor Septimus Severus in 203 B.C., the Hippodrome was the center of secular life in Byzantium. Enlarged into a vast stadium by Emperor Constantine, it could seat 100,000 spectators. Four-horse chariots raced beneath the gaze of the Byzantine emperors, in addition to other entertainment activities.

The monuments of spina (central line), which have survived until today, are the Egyptian Obelisk, the Serpentine Column and Constantine’s Column.

**Dinner at Kosebasi Kebap Restaurant . . .**

Since 1995, Kosebasi is the only restaurant chain that is true to the traditional recipes of Southern Anolia. Kosebasi has managed to capture this unique and traditional taste and is committed to continuing to offer not only great dining but also an introduction to the Anatolian lifestyle.

Kosebasi was voted one of the “World’s 50 Best Restaurants” by the 14,000 members of Conde Nast Traveler magazine and was awarded the International Tourism, Hotel and Catering Industries Award as “the best representation of traditional Turkish cuisine.” In addition, it was cited as “the best kebab restaurat in Istanbul” by Time magazine.

**Overnight Four Seasons Hotel.**

**(B/L/D)**

**10 September 2011—Saturday**

**Fly Istanbul to Izmir . . . Discover the Hellinistic site of Pergamon . . .**

**Pergamon** is one of the major sites of antiquity in Turkey and is located in the province of Izmir. During the Hellenistic period, Pergamon was an outstanding cultural center for more that a century. During Byzantine times, it was the center of a diocese. The stones from Hellenistic and roman buildings, as well as ancient statuary material, were used as building material. In 716 the city was occupied by the Arab invaders and was later captured by Turks in 1330. Between 1878 and 1886 a German excavation team excavated the site and the magnificent reliefs of the Altar of Zeus were discovered. They currently reside in the Berlin.
The main part of the city of Pergaon was located between two rivers, the Selinus on the west and the Cetius on the east. The ruins today consist of an upper city, middle, a Roman city, the so called “Red Courtyard” (Temple of Serapis), and the Temple of Asklepiion, the last being located outside the city proper. In addition, there is a fine museum in the town of Bergama that houses finds from Pergamon as well as from the surrounding area. Adjacent to the northern side of the sacred precinct was the famous Pergamon library built during the reign of Eumenes II. In the middle of the library’s main reading room is the podium on which there stood a 3.5 meter statue of Athena that is now in the Berlin Museum. Ancient authors tell us that the Pergamon library contained 200,000 volumes. Mark Anthony carted them off to Egypt as a gift for Cleopatra, ostensibly to replace the ones that had been lost when the Alexandrian library was burned during Caesar’s campaign in that city.

Lunch will be served at a local restaurant. Return to Izmar for overnight.

Overnight Swissotel Grand Efes (5 Star) in Izmar. (B/L)

11 September 2011—Sunday

Visit Ephesus One of the Seven Wonders of the Anciet World . . .

Ephesus is one of the best-preserved ancient sites in the world, extending back into the third millennium B.C. Ephesus was one of the most important centers of antiquity. The harbor city was the point of departure for the famous royal highway that led through Sardis into Lydia. Because of its location, Ephesus developed into an important political and economic center, and became the capital city of the Roman province of Asia. The remains of this important Ionian city are miraculously still standing today, vivid witnesses of a glorious past. Among the well-preserved ruins, the Theater, Hadrian’s Gate, the Celsus Library, the Street of the Curetes, the Fountain of Trajan, and the Odeon are the most remarkable.
Ephesus Terrace Houses are located on the hill, opposite the Hadrian Temple. Also called "the houses of the rich", and are important for the information they give us about family life during the Roman period. They were built according to the Hippodamian plan of the city in which roads transected each other at right angles. There are six residential units on three terraces at the lower end of the slope of the Bulbul Mountain. The oldest building dates back to the 1 century B.C. and continued in use as a residence until the 7 century A.D.

The Ephesus terrace houses are covered with protective roofing which resembles Roman houses. The mosaics on the floor and the frescos have been consolidated and two houses have been opened to the public as a museum. They had interior courtyards in the center, with an open ceiling. They were mostly two-storied, upper stories have collapsed over time. On the ground floor there were living and dining rooms opening to a hall, and upstairs there were bedrooms and guest rooms.

The heating system of the terrace houses were the same as the baths. Clay pipes beneath the floors and behind the walls carried hot air through the houses. The houses also had cold and hot water. The rooms had no window, only illuminated with light coming from the open hall, so that most of the rooms were dim. The excavations of the terrace houses started in 1960. The restoration of the two of the houses has been finished and can be visited today.

The Ephesus Archaeological Museum is located within the ancient city of Ephesus.

In Ephesus, the works of art excavated between 1867—1905 were transported to the British Museum; those from 1905—1923 were taken to Vienna.

The Turkish Republic forbid the taking of antiquities out of the country and founded the current museum in 1983.

The Ephesus Museum is different from other museums, in that, it is not designed according to chronological order. Instead, it has rooms divided by themes, The House Finding Room, The Hall of The Fountain Relics, The Hall of the Funerary Relics, The Hall of Artemis, etc.

Lunch at a local restaurant.
**Basilica of St. John at Ephesus . . .**

It is believed that the evangelist St. John spent his last years in the region around Ephesus and was buried in the southern slope of Ayosolug Hill. Three hundred years after the death of Saint Paul, a small chapel was constructed over the grave in the 4th century. The church of Saint John was changed into a marvellous basilica during the region of Emperor Justinian.

**The House of the Virgin Mary . . .**

The house on top of Bülbüldagi is believed to be the last home of the Virgin Mary. It was proclaimed a place of pilgrimage by Pope Paul VI in 1967 and Pope John Paul II in 1979. The resolutions of the ecumenical council of 431 held that the Virgin Mary came to Ephesus with Saint John, four to six years after the death of Christ. Today's structure is a church that dates to the seventh century.

Lunch at a local restaurant. Return to Izmir for overnight.

**Overnight Swissotel Grand Efes in Izmir.** (B/L)

**12 September 2011—Monday**

**Wander through an important Byzantine church . . .**

Laodicea was founded as a site in the first half of the 3rd century B.C. by King Antiochus II. He founded the city because of its potential political importance in an area which lay just on the border to Caria, and has named it after his queen, Laodicea.

Although not much remains other than the amphitheater and the monumental fountain which is badly ruined, you will have a chance to see the place where one of the most important seven churches of Christian history stood.

Laodicea fell to the Kingdom of Pergamum and then to the Roman Empire after a short while like the rest of the ancient Anatolian cities. It was destroyed by a mighty earthquake in 60 B.C. Laodicea lay in ruins until visit by the Roman emperor, Hadrian, at the beginning of the 2nd century A.D. It was almost totally rebuilt during the reign of Caracalla. It flourished by its textile production and stock-farming, and became a rich center for commerce and the arts.

Laodicea grew to be an important religious center in the Byzantine era, as one of the most important seven churches of Christianity was built here, and it was turned into an archbishopric.

Lunch at a local restaurant on the way to Pamukkale.
Pamukkale, is Turkey's foremost mineral-bath spa due to its natural beauty: hot calcium-laden waters spring from the earth and cascade over a cliff. As they cool they form dramatic travertine's of hard, brilliantly white calcium that form pools.

Pamukkale (pah-MOOK-kah-leh, "Cotton Fortress") has been a spa since the Romans built the spa city of Hierapolis around a sacred warm-water spring. The Sacred Pool is still there, littered with marble columns from the Roman Temple of Apollo.

Hierapolis was the ancient Greek city on top of the hot springs in Pamukkale. It is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The hot springs there have been used as a spa since the 2nd century B.C., when people came to soothe their ailments, with many of them retiring or dying here. The large necropolis is filled with sarcophagi, including the Sarcophagus of Marcus Aurelius Ammines.

The great baths were constructed with huge stone blocks without the use of cement, and consisted of various closed or open sections linked together. There are deep niches in the inner section of the bath, library, gymnasium and other buildings. The complex, which was constructed in the 2nd century B.C., constitutes a good example of vault type architecture. The complex is now an archaeological museum.

Overnight Pamukkale Colossae Thermal Hotel.  (B/L/D)

13 September 2011—Tuesday

Delve into the unconventional and mystical ancient Antalya region . . .

Originally, a Hellenistic settlement, which later developed into a thriving Roman city, Perge is a historicist’s delight. Situated only 18 km from Antalya in the Pamphylion plain, Perge has a long legacy (from 1500 B.C.) to narrate with its initial inhabitants being the Hittites. Its importance also lies in the fact that the ruins of the Roman city provides a very complete picture of the past, making it archaeologically invaluable.

Aspendos is located east of Antalya and is famous for its ancient amphitheater built in the 2nd century A.D. during the reign of Emperor Marcus Aurelius. The theater has a capacity of 15,000 and is one of the best-preserved in the world. Its galleries, stage decorations and acoustics all testify to its architech Xeno's success. Next to the stage there is a small room which is used as a museum. Here you can see some of the masks and clay tickets from ancient times.
According to legend, Aspendos was first founded by Greek colonist who came to the region after the Trojan War. Aspendos was one of the cities in the region to mint silver coins under its own name. Together with her neighbor Perge, Aspendos was also left under Persian rule between the 6th and 5th centuries B.C. The Persians stayed until the arrival of Alexander the Great in 333 B.C. After the death of Alexander, the city was controlled by the Seleucids, and then the Kingdom of Pergamum until 133 B.C. when the Romans took over.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Çatalhöyük at Cumra is a fascinating Neolithic site dating from the 10th-8th millennium B.C., which makes it one of the world's oldest towns. The discovery of this Neolithic settlement, the largest and most complex known in the world until the discovery of the Gobeklitepe site, was among the great archaeological finds of the 1960's. Here was evidence of one of the first agricultural-based settlements and a place where women may have had a central leadership role.

Found amid the ruins were wooden, metal, and earthenware artifacts, as well as murals, bas-reliefs, and sculptures that depicted systems of early belief. The archaeologists suddenly abandoned their work after five years and the ruins were left exposed. Not until 1993 was remedial conservation work undertaken on the site. Open trenches had allowed walls and associated art to disintegrate. Previous Watch Listing elicited funds for urgent backfilling and shoring up of walls, but much still needs to be done. The Catalhoyuk Friends Association and other organizations raised money to build a roof on top to protect the wall paintings. Another major threat results from the severe drop in the water table due to a local irrigation project. The Turkish Water Authority has suggested digging a water channel around the ruins. This must be done on an emergency basis to save the artifacts still undiscovered within the buried city. Future plans call for a conservation facility, museum, and visitor center.

Çatalhöyük was listed in 1996 as one of the 100 most endangered sites of the world by the World Monuments Fund.
**Daily Itinerary**

Ankara's Museum of Anatolian Civilizations houses the famous temple-house (reconstructed), along with mother-goddess Cybele figures, obsidian and clay objects and Neolithic frescoes from the original site.

Overnight Konya Dedeman Hotel. (B/L/D)

**14 September 2011—Wednesday**

*Encounter the Fairy Tale Chimneys and Underground Cities of Cappadocia . . .*

Cappadocia is Turkey's most visually striking region, in particular around the Goreme area where erosion has formed caves, clefts, “fairy chimneys” and sensuous folds in the soft volcanic rock.

**Zelve** is an open air museum that once housed one of the largest communities in the region. It is an amazing cave town, honeycombed with dwellings, religious and secular chambers. Here, the Christians and Muslims lived together in perfect harmony, until 1924. Then Christians had to leave the Valley because of the exchange of minorities between Greece and Turkey, and the Muslims were forced to evacuate the Valley in the 50's when life became dangerous due to the risk of erosion. They left the site to set up a modern village, to which they gave the name Yeni Zelve (New Zelve). Now old Zelve is a ghost town and the erosion still continues.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

**Kaymakli Underground City**

Underground Cities? These troglodyte cave cities were excavated as early as Hittite times, and expanded over the centuries as various marauding armies traversed Central Anatolia in search of captives and plunder. There are 36 underground cities in Cappadocia and the widest is Kaymakli’s underground city.

Kaymakli underground city is built under the hill known as the Citadel of Kaymakli and was opened to visitors in 1964. The people of Kaymakli village have constructed their houses around nearly one hundred tunnels of the underground city. The inhabitants of the region still use the most convenient places in the tunnels as cellars, storage areas and stables, which they access through their courtyards. The Kaymakli Underground City has low, narrow and sloping passages. While the underground city consists of 8 floors below ground, only 4 of them are open to the public today, in which the spaces are organized around ventilation shafts.
The **Goreme Open-air Museum** resembles a vast monastic complex composed of scores of refectory monasteries placed side-by-side, each with its own amazingly beautiful church. It is obviously the first sight to be visited by any traveler in Cappadocia, standing as it does in the very center of the region with easy access from all directions. It contains the finest of the rock cut churches, with beautiful frescoes whose colors still retain all their original freshness. It also presents unique examples of rock hewn architecture and fresco technique. The Goreme Open Air Museum has been a member of UNESCO World Heritage List since 1984, and was one of the first two UNESCO sites in Turkey.

The area covered by this Open Air Museum forms a coherent geographical entity and represents historical unity. There are eleven refectories within the museum, with rock cut churches, tables and benches. Each is associated with a church. Most of the churches in Goreme Open Air Museum belong to the 10th, 11th and 12th centuries.

Dinner at Ala Turka Restaurant, became one of the hot spots of the Cappadocia area. Located in the center of the town it attracts visitors with its warm interior design, its cozy terrace overlooking the busy streets of Goreme, but most importantly with its tasteful meals consisting of the great samples of the Turkish Cuisines. You may taste here the famous Turkish Mezzes (Appetizers) followed by the well known Kebabs and ending with typical desserts.

**Overnight MDC Luxury Cave Hotel in Cappadocia.** (B/L/D)

### 15 September 2011—Thursday

This morning, you may choose to take an optional hot air balloon excursion over Cappadocia. After lunch, visit the potters of Avanos, who have practiced their craft for more than 4,000 years. Balance of the day is free to enjoy the scenery and explore Cappadocia.

**Overnight MDC Luxury Cave Hotel in Cappadocia** (B/L)
16 September 2011—Friday

*A Walled Neo-Hittite City in Southern Turkey* . . .

Neo-Hittite sites are a fascinating mixture of Hittite, Aramaic, and Phoenician. Nowhere is this more apparent than at the site of Karatepe, built in the seventh century B.C. And known today as Aslantas, or "Lone Stone."

Karatepe has monumental gateways with passages leading to chambers at either side. The interior basalt walls are carved with lions, sphinxes, and depictions of deities like the Phoenician storm god Baal ad the Egyptian dwarf god Bes. There are also several bilingual inscriptions there that, when the site was discovered in 1946, became the key to unlocking the mysterious Luwian hieroglyphs and truly opening up Hittite civilization to scholars for the first time.

This is the site of the Karatepe-Aslantas National Park.

During your drive you will see several Crusader Era Armenian Castles along the way.

*Overnight in Adana at the Hilton.* (B/L/D)

17 September 2011—Saturday

**Antakya—a rival to Alexandria** . . .

*Antakya (Antioch and Orontes)* is the city where the culture and traditions of Mesopotamia and Arabia met those of the Greek and Romans. It was a long-standing rival of Alexandria.

*The Antakya Archaeological Museum* is spread throughout seven rooms and two halls, arranged according to where the artifacts were found. One of the most famous mosaics in the Antakya Museum is the Megalopsychia Hunt Mosaic, a large mosaic pavement dating from 450-75 AD. Discovered in Yakto village near Daphne, the mosaic is celebrated for its border, which depicts major landmarks and daily activities in ancient Antioch and Daphne. It is an important source for archaeologists, since virtually no structures from these ancient cities survive today.

In addition to its mosaics, the museum displays many important artifacts discovered in Antioch and surrounding regions. These include column capitals, a sacrificial altar, idols, reliefs, grave steles, pottery objects, frescoes, coins, jewelry, and statues from the Hittite to Byzantine periods.

The museum’s garden contains Roman period sarcophagi, building stones, water jars, and other objects, as well as a mosaic from the *Church of Seleucia Pieria*.

*The Cave Church of St. Peter* (also the Grotto of St. Peter) is an ancient cave church with a stone facade, located just outside Antioch (modern Antakya), Turkey.
This cave is widely believed to have been dug by the Apostle Peter himself as a place for the early Christian community of Antioch to meet, and thus to be the very first Christian church. Whether or not this is so, St. Peter (and St. Paul) did preach in Antioch around 50 AD and a church had been established in Antioch as early as 40 A.D.

Antioch became a major center for planning and organizing the apostles' missionary efforts, and it was the base for Paul's earliest missionary journeys. The inhabitants of Antioch were the first called Jesus' followers "Christians" (Acts 11:26). The attractive stone facade of the church was built by Crusaders, who identified the grotto during their rule of Antioch from 1098 to 1268. The interior of the grotto church is austere and simple. The only permanent furnishings are a small altar, a single statue, and a stone throne. On the walls are the barely discernible remains of frescoes, and on the floor can be seen some traces of mosaics. In the back of the church is a tunnel that leads into the mountain interior, popularly believed to be a means of escape in times of persecution.

### Overnight Ottoman Palace Thermal Resort & Spa. (B/L/D)

#### 18 September 2011—Sunday

**Explore ancient settlements . . .**

Drive to Gaziantep, on the way to pass by Tilmen Hoyuk and Yesemek, the first known open air sculpture workshop and visit Zincirli. We will visit sites excavated by The Field Museum's, Dr. Jim Phillips at Tell Tayinat and Tell Acana.

Tell Tayinat (Tell Tainat) is located about 25km from the city of Antakya. The site is about 800 meters to the site of Tell Açana. The site's ancient name was probably Kunulua which was the capital of Neo-Hittite kingdom Patina/Unqi. Patina or Unqi were names used by Assyrians. The Hittite name is not known. Several orthostats and ornamented column bases were found, which date to 9th and 8th centuries BCE. Some of the orthostats are from the later Assyrian period which are now in the Oriental Institute of Chicago. Many other findings are in Antakya Museum.

Several inscribed fragments of a colossal statue of a seated figure was found near the East Gate in 1936. It was probably similar to the one that was found at the King's Gate of Karkamış. Among the few readable words of this hieroglyphic Luwian inscription is the name Halparuntiya who is mentioned in Assyrian sources as Qalparunda in 857 and 853 B.C. If they are the same person, the statue should date to mid-9th century B.C. About 12 large and several small fragments that were found in different areas of the site has been put together to form parts of a rectangular block with 5-line hieroglyphic Luwian inscription running around the statue. There are many more fragmental as well as re-used pieces from Hittite era. Such a destruction may indicate that the monuments were destroyed in 738 B.C. when the city was captured by the Assyrians.
Zincirli, is the modern Turkish name for the ruin mound in which are buried the remains of the ancient city of Sam'al. The name Zincirli means “place of the chain” (from the Turkish zincir meaning “chain”). It became known as this in the Ottoman period because a military well, placed along the road that passed by the site, possessed an iron chain—an unusual feature in this remote valley, populated at that time mainly by nomadic herders.

The ancient name Sam'al means “north.” The city was obviously so designated from the perspective of Semitic-speaking settlers coming from the south, who gave it this name, perhaps in the “Amorite” Middle Bronze Age in the early second millennium B.C., when an empire based in Aleppo (Halab) dominated most of Syria, or possibly even earlier, during the period of the Ebla Empire in the third millennium B.C., when the site of Zincirli was first occupied. Another ancient name for Zincirli or the surrounding region that appears in various Iron Age inscriptions is Y'DY. We do not know how to pronounce it, but it does not appear to be Semitic, indicating that at some point a non-Semitic-speaking population had moved into the area as well.

The well-fortified city of Sam'al guarded a major pass over the Amanus Mountains, which divide the North Syrian interior from the Mediterranean Sea and the Cilician Plain to the west. It therefore controlled the caravan traffic from inland Syria and Mesopotamia that traveled westward to the Mediterranean from the Upper Euphrates River, leaving the river at a point about 100 kilometers (60 miles) due east of Zincirli, where the Euphrates comes closest to the sea. The heavily forested Amanus Mountains were famous in antiquity for their timber, especially tall pine and cedar, which was shipped overland to the Euphrates and then downstream to treeless southern Mesopotamia, in what is today the country of Iraq.

Overnight Tugcan Hotel (5 Stars) in Gaziantep or similar. (B/L)

19 September 2011—Monday

Visit the ancient frontier city between Turkey and Syria . . .

Carchemish is now an extensive set of ruins, located on the west bank of Euphrates River, about 60 kilometers (37 mi) southeast of Gaziantep, Turkey and 100 kilometers (62 mi) northeast of Aleppo, Syria. The site lies in Turkish territory near the frontier between the two countries.

The site has been occupied since the Neolithic period, with pottery finds from ca. 3000 B.C. and tombs from ca. 2300 B.C. (Early Bronze Age). The city is mentioned in documents found in the Ebla archives of the 3rd millen-
Pharaoh Thutmose I of the Eighteenth Dynasty erected a stelae near Carchemish to celebrate his conquest of Syria and other lands beyond the Euphrates. Around the end of the reign of Pharaoh Akhenaten, Carchemish was captured by king Suppiluliuma I of the Hittites (ca. 14th century B.C.), who made it into a kingdom ruled by his son Piyashshili.

The city became one of the most important centers in the Hittite Empire, during the Late Bronze Age, and reached its apogee around the 11th century B.C. While the Hittite empire fell to the Sea People during the Bronze Age collapse, Carchemish survived the Sea People’s attacks and continued to be the capital of an important "Neo-Hittite" kingdom in the Iron Age, and a trading center. Although Ramesses III states in an inscription dating to his 8th year from his Medinet Habu mortuary temple that Carchemish was destroyed by the Sea People, the city evidently survived the onslaught of the Sea People.

**Göbekli Tepe** is the oldest human-made place of worship yet discovered. Until excavations began, a complex on this scale was not thought possible for a community so ancient. The massive sequence of stratification layers suggests several millennia of activity, perhaps reaching back to the Mesolithic. The oldest occupation layer (stratum III) contains monolithic pillars linked by coarsely built walls to form circular or oval structures. So far, four such buildings, with diameters between 10 and 30 meters have been uncovered. Geophysical surveys indicate the existence of 16 additional structures.

Stratum II, dated to Pre-Pottery Neolithic B (7500–6000 B.C.), has revealed several adjacent rectangular rooms with floors of polished lime, reminiscent of Roman terrazzo floors. The most recent layer consists of sediment deposited as the result of agricultural activity.

The monoliths are decorated with carved reliefs of animals and of abstract pictograms. The pictograms may represent commonly understood sacred symbols, as known from Neolithic cave paintings elsewhere. The carefully carved figurative reliefs depict lions, bulls, boars, foxes, gazelles, asses, snakes and other reptiles, insects, arachnids, and birds, particularly vultures and water fowl. At the time the shrine was constructed the surrounding country was much lusher and capable of sustaining this variety of wildlife, before millennia of settlement and cultivation resulted in the near–Dust Bowl conditions prevailing today.

**Overnight Manica Urfa Hotel.**
20 September 2011—Tuesday

Explore the birthplace of the Prophet Abraham...

Abraham’s Cave, is often said to be the birthplace of the prophet. It is located to the south of the city. Urfa is located in southeast Turkey, at the border to Iraq. The Turkish Muslim tradition postulates that this city in the fertile plains of upper Mesopotamia and is the ancients city Ur, where the patriarch Abraham was born and received God’s call to go to Canaan. Of course, Iraq claims that Ur is located in southern Iraq, but archaeologists have no real evidence for either location.

The center of the Abraham cult at Urfa, which is also called Sanliurfa (Urfa the Glorious) or the City of Prophets, is located at a huge rectangular pond full of carps. According to legend, this is the place where Abraham started to smash idols, a plaque reads: "Abraham, peace be upon him, taught people that the stars were only stars; the moon only the moon; the sun only the sun; and that king Nemrud was only a human being." King Nemrud (Nimrod) was obviously a little angry about Abraham, and hurled him into a furnace. But a famous miracle happened, the fire turned into water, and the burning logs into sacred carps. Picnickers, pilgrims and vendors populate the huge park today.

Abraham's Cave is a gaping mouth flanked by two columns. The cave has two entrances, one for each gender. Visitors, especially women, are required to wear appropriate clothes, so headscarves are handed out at the entrance. The cave itself is a sort of cave church, hot because of the lack of ventilation and the high number of visitors.

Fly to Ankara, scheduled flight details are not yet available. Upon arrival and time allowing, a visit is planned to the Anatolian Civilization Museum in Ankara. The museum is in two Ottoman buildings located near Ankara Castle, in the historical Atpazarı district of Ankara. One of the buildings is Mahmut Paşa Bedesteni and the other is Kurşunlu Han (inn, caravanserai).

Overnight Sheraton Ankara. (B/L)
21 September 2011—Wednesday

Alacahöyük is located in north central Turkey in the Çorum province. Alacahöyük was an important city in pre-Hittite times, but after the Hittite conquest it remained in the shadow of the nearby capital Hattuša. The most important finds of the location are the artifacts from the pre-Hittite royal tombs dating from about 2500 B.C. But most of the standing monuments are from the Hittite times. The town walls with their carved orthostats have inner and outer gateways with ramps for archers. The southern outer monumental gateway, erected by the Hittite after they reoccupied Alaca, was set between two towers, guarded by two great sphinxes. In the doorjambs are 13 feet high monoliths carved to create each seven foot high sphinx. Inside the Sphinx Gate was a large Hittite building complex that still requires excavation. The bases of the two towers by the Sphinx Gate are decorated with several orthostats. Most of the reliefs and sphinxes date from 14th century B.C. The originals are replaced with replicas at the site and were moved to the Anatolian Civilizations Museum in Ankara.

Return to the Sheraton Ankara for overnight.  

22 September 2011—Thursday

Gordion, is one of the most important archaeological sites in the Near East, occupied for more than 4,000 years from the Bronze Age to modern times. It had a strategically important location in what is now Central Turkey (100 km southwest of Ankara). Its heyday was in the first half of the first millennium B.C. when it was the royal capital of the powerful Iron Age kingdom known as Phrygia to the Greeks and Mushki to the neighboring Assyrian empire. It was a major center of population, with an urban fabric spread over two kilometers, dominated by monumental buildings and fortifications and over 100 elite burial mounds. Its fabled king Midas, in myth cursed with asses’ ears and the “golden touch,” was actually a real figure, and it was here too that Alexander the Great was said to have cut the famous Gordion Knot. Since 1950, Gordion has been extensively investigated by the University of Pennsylvania and other institutions, in over 30 annual excavation campaigns. These investigations, on a scale rivaled by few other archaeological projects, have uncovered an impressive portion of the physical fabric of this major administrative center, and furnished unusually plentiful material for evaluating life and society in those distant times.

Drive to Istanbul (4 hr) - overnight at the Grand Hyatt.  

(B/L)
The *Golden Horn* is a historic inlet of the Bosphorus dividing the city of Istanbul and forming the natural harbor that has sheltered Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Ottoman and other ships for thousands of years. It is a scimitar shaped estuary that joins the Bosphorus just at the point where that strait enters the Sea of Marmara, forming a peninsula the tip of which is Old Istanbul.

The *Chora Museum*, building in its present form was completed in the 11th century and adorned with beautiful mosaics and frescoes. The mosaics follow an iconographic order and have a rare quality. When in the 15th century the church was converted to a mosque, after the conquest by the Ottomans, these were covered by whitewash; ironically enough, the Islam faith, which forbids representation of human figures, preserved them until our century. After becoming a museum in 1950 it was restored and cleaned by the Byzantine Institute of the U.S.A., the mosaics were revealed in their original brightness.

The *Spice Market* is one of the oldest covered bazaars in Istanbul. The Spice Bazaar in Eminönü, located behind the Yeni Mosque and next to the flower market, was established by Sultan Turhan, and designed by architect Kazım Aga. It was given a new lease of life by the Municipality of Istanbul after its restoration in 1940. Open every day except Sundays, it sells herbs, spices, a variety of natural medicines, and plant and flower seeds. Beside these traditional commodities, one can now find a large range of dried fruits and nuts, cheeses, meats and other foods.

Istanbul is where two great continents meet: Europe and Asia. The magnificent *Covered Bazaar (Kapalicarsi)*, which stands in one of the oldest settlements of the city's European shore, has always been a favorite with foreign visitors. The story goes that the bazaar began as two vaulted halls built by Sultan Mehmet the Conqueror (1451 - 1481) to provide an income for the Hagia Sophia Mosque, and gradually turned into a commercial center as traders began to display their wares on counters around these two stone buildings. First-time visitors to the Covered Bazaar are astounded by its splendor and size (30.7 hectares). The bazaar contains 3,000 shops, 25,000 full-time staff, 61 streets and even two mosques, and looks as much to the present as it does to the past. In the jewelers' shops, bedecked with gold, silver and precious stones, you can find all kinds of valuable decorative items, from antique jewels to modern pendants. As well as giftware made of pottery, wicker, wood, copper and silver, the Covered Bazaar is also a center for leather goods and accessories.

The Bosphorus is a winding strait separating Europe and Asia. Along its shores is a delightfully surprising mixture of past and present, grand splendor and simple beauty. The shore is lined with modern hotels as well as antique wooden houses, palaces of marble, fortresses and small fishing villages. The best way to see the Bosphorus is to take a cruise aboard a private motor yacht.
Facing each other across the Bosphorus are the twin fortresses of Rumeli Hisari and Anadolu Hisari followed by the second link between the two continents, the Fatih Sultan Mehmet Bridge. Farther along on the European side is the beautiful bay of Tarabya, with yachts at anchor and many seafront taverns. After passing in front of some small fishing villages, the Bosphorus joins the Black Sea.

**Overnight Grand Hyatt Istanbul.** (B/L)

**24 September 2011—Saturday**

**Free Day in Istanbul**

Today will be a free day in Istanbul to enjoy the city on your own or take an optional tour within the city.

**Farewell Dinner at Feriye Restaurant on the Bosphorus**

Tonight we bid farewell to Turkey, to old friends and new, and take time to look back at all we have seen and learned during our time in Turkey.

A special dinner has been planned at Feriye Restaurant, which dates back to the mid-19th century when the Ottoman Sultans abandoned the traditional palace at Topkapi for this unique waterfront location. Feriye Restaurant was then a police station providing security for the Feriye Palaces which extended between Dolmabahce and Ortaköy. These were palaces of secondary importance to Ciragan and Dolmabahce Palaces and used as residences for married princesses and other members of the royal family.

During this period of strong western influence, the architecture of all these palaces displays an eclectic variety of western styles with its neo-classical colonnaded facades.

This restaurant specializes in Turkish and Ottoman cuisine and has been written up in magazines and newspapers around the world.

**Overnight Grand Hyatt Istanbul.** (B/D)
25 September 2011—Sunday

Transfer to the airport for your International Flight to the Chicago . . .

Depart via Turkish Air at 11:20 a.m. and arriving in Chicago at 4:16 p.m. (11 h 50 m).

End of Program
While traveling on The Field Museum journey through Turkey you will see the following UNESCO World Heritage Sites:

**Entered Sites**

- Goreme National Park and the Rock Sites of Cappadocia—Entered 1958
- Historical Areas of Istanbul—Entered 1985
- Hattusha the Hittite Capital—Entered 1986
- Hierapolis—Pamukkale—Entered 1988

**Tentative Sites**

- Archaeological Site of Perge
- Cumalikizik Early Ottoman Settlement
- Karain Cave
- Konya Capital of the Seljuk Civilization
- Neolithic Site of Catalhoyuk
- St. Paul Church and Well
- Sumela Monastery of St. Mary
Included Features

• Visa upon arrival at Istanbul International Airport
• VIP Meeting and Assistance upon arrival and departure
• Baggage handling at airports and hotel
• All airport and hotel transfers (unless arriving/departing on an airline other than Turkish Air or for early or late arrival/departures
• Transportation in Deluxe Motor Coaches—45 passenger
• Accommodations at 5 Star and 5 Star Deluxe Hotels
  2 nights—Four Seasons Istanbul—Deluxe 5 Star
  2 nights—Swissotel Grand Efez Izmir—Deluxe 5 Star
  1 night Colossae Thermal Pamukkale—5 Star
  1 night Dedeman Konya—5 Star
  2 night MDC Cappadocia—Special Category Hotel
  1 night Hilton Adana—5 Star
  1 night Ottoman Palace Thermal Resort Antioch—5 Star
  1 night Tugcan Hotel Zincirli—5 Star
  1 night Manici Urf—Special Category—Pending Upgrade
  2 nights Sheraton Ankara—5 Star
  3 nights Grand Hyatt Istanbul—5 Star
• Entrance fees to sites listed on itinerary only
• Seven Wonders Travel Escort throughout tour
• English Speaking guide throughout tour
• Deluxe Departure Documents and Luggage Tags
• Meals listed in itinerary—including buffet breakfast and lunch daily and 9 dinners
• Water, Coffee, Tea, and Soft Drinks with meals
• Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner in Istanbul
• Water on bus daily
• Tipping to bus driver, airport baggage handles, tour representatives, hotel baggage handles for check in and out (not room delivery) and all miscellaneous tipping

Not Included Features—

• Passport procurement
• International Airline tickets unless purchased through Seven Wonders Travel at an additional cost
• Alcoholic Beverages
• Meals not included in itinerary
• Medical Expenses
• Trip Cancellation Insurance
• Tips to guide at conclusion of tour (suggested amount—$7-8 per day per person)
• Tips to hotel baggage handlers when luggage is delivered to room (suggested amount $1 per bag)
• Personal expenses including room service, telephone calls, laundry, etc.
Reserve your trip to Turkey today!
Space Limited to 15 Couples

Legal name exactly as it appears on passport—

(1)

First  Middle  Last

Address  City  State  Zip Code

(2)

First  Middle  Last

Address  City  State  Zip Code

Home Phone: __________________________ Email(s): ________________________________

Cell Phone: __________________________ Cell Phone: ________________________________

1st Person

Passport #: __________________________ Date of Expiry: ________________________________

Date of Birth: __________________________ Date of Issue: ________________________________

2nd Person

Passport #: __________________________ Date of Expiry: ________________________________

Date of Birth: __________________________ Date of Issue: ________________________________

☐ I will be sharing with __________________________________________________________

☐ I would like a single room

☐ I request a roommate and understand a roommate is not guaranteed.

☐ I request Seven Wonders Travel contact me about airline reservations.

☐ Enclosed is my deposit of $___________________ to reserve ___________________ space(s) on the Field Museum trip. A $1,800 deposit per person is required to reserve space.

Make checks payable to: Seven Wonders Travel

Return this form along with your check to: Seven Wonders Travel

833 Essex Circle

Grayslake, IL 60030

Registrations will be accepted on a first come first serve basis—please mail early to confirm your space.

For questions: 847.231.6774 ask for Janice or Paige.
**LAND PACKAGE COST**  
17 Day Program  
Per Person/Db1 Occupancy $9,250.00  
Single Supplement $1,850.00  
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**PRE-ARRIVAL HOTEL**  
Four Seasons Istanbul  
Per Room/Db1 Occupancy $780.00  
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Grand Hyatt Istanbul  
Per Room/Db1 Occupancy $400.00  
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**OPTIONAL HOT AIR BALLOON RIDE**  
Cappadocia  
Per Person $210

**PRIVATE AIRPORT ASSISTANCE**  
Arrivals/Departures other than with the group.  
Upon Arrival $80  
Upon Departure $80  
Based upon a minimum of two passengers.

**VISA SERVICE**  
Visa cost and procurement is included in the cost of land package. Visa will be issued upon arrival at Anaturk International Airport in Istanbul.

**International Air on Turkish Air Chicago/Istanbul/Chicago**

Group airfare has been negotiated on your behalf by Seven Wonders Travel. We suggest flying on Turkish Air.

07 Sept 2011—Depart Chicago’s O’Hare International Airport  
TK#6J  ORD/IST  Departing 1020 PM  Arriving Next Day 505 PM (Istanbul)

25 Sept 2011—Departing Anaturk International Airport  
TK#5J  IST/ORD  Departing 1120 AM  Arriving Same Day 315 PM (O’Hare)

Business Class Fare: $4,395.00 Including Tax  
Economy Fare: $1,140.00 Including Tax