



The Brown Travelers

CRETE

A Window on the Ancient World



With William Wyatt, Jr., Emeritus Professor of Classics at Brown

September 8 - 17, 2006



Dear Graduates, Parents and Friends of Brown:

I invite you to join other Brown alumni and friends on this fascinating program to the island of Crete, the largest island in the Greek archipelago. Experience the entire history of Crete, from the Neolithic era to today, focusing on the Minoan culture of almost 4,000 years ago. Throughout the program, **Brown Emeritus Professor of Classics William F. Wyatt, Jr.** will share his knowledge of the classical history and culture of this thriving region.

Experience Crete's physical landscape—8,000-foot mountains, deep gorges, stalactite-filled caves, vineyards, olive groves and a picturesque coastline surrounded by a sparkling sea and colorful fishing boats. Dotted the landscape are whitewashed Byzantine churches, monasteries, Venetian fortresses, Turkish mosques and extensive archaeological sites of the world's most advanced ancient civilizations. Witness a remarkable sophistication in the art and architecture at the palace of Knossos, Vathypetro and Phaistos and in the intriguing exhibits in the museums we visit throughout the island.

Begin in Heraklion, which offers a rich sightseeing experience both in the city and in villages scattered throughout the surrounding countryside. See the windmills on the Lasithi Plateau and explore the Venetian fortress on the island of Spinalonga. Continue to the Venetian town of Hania, our base of exploration for the island's western part. Visit the charming seaside town of Rethymno and participate in a hike at the beautiful Imbros Gorge. An unhurried exploration of this intriguing island, there is ample opportunity to explore villages, browse in marketplaces and dine in festive local *tavernas*.

Space is limited on this Brown-exclusive departure, so we encourage you to register today.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Beth Goldman Galer".

Beth Goldman Galer '88
Director of the Alumni Travel Program



A depiction of the Pentathlon. The Greeks believed in the value of sports as training for warfare and as a way of honoring the gods.
Background: a detail of a marble frieze



Prince of the Lilies,
Knossos



A Cretan village



An ancient vase in the
form of a bull's head

CRETE

Greece is the cradle of European civilization, and Crete, the country's largest island, is steeped in history and culture. Crete's beautiful landscape of rugged mountains, fertile valleys, turquoise seas and deep gorges provides a wonderful natural backdrop for touring the well-preserved archaeological ruins, fascinating museums and traditional villages that dot this idyllic island.

The birthplace of the Minoan civilization, one of Europe's oldest civilizations, Crete brims with archaeological treasures. In Heraklion, visit the Archaeological Museum and the nearby Minoan Palace of Knossos, Crete's most significant ancient site. Tour this vast royal residence's excavated palace rooms with mosaic floors and view restored frescoes, taking in the grandeur of this advanced civilization. Travel east through the stunning mountain-fringed Lasithi Plateau, a vast expanse of pear and apple orchards, almond trees and fields of crops punctuated by windmills. In this area, we ascend Mt. Dicty where, according to legend, the newborn Zeus was hidden. Visit several picturesque villages on the eastern side of the island, including Kritsa, renowned for its weaving tradition, and Gortys, once the Roman capital of Crete.

From Heraklion, journey west to Hania, where we discover beautiful Venetian and Turkish buildings, white-domed churches and colorful markets. Excursions take in the coastal resort town of Rethymno, sacked in the 16th century and occupied in the 17th century by the Turks, and the Monastery of Arkadi, well known as a center of learning in the 16th century. An outing to the stunning Imbros Gorge located on the south side of the island offers an invigorating natural history experience, including views of the Libyan Sea, which stretches to the coast of Africa.



Aphrodite

ITINERARY

Friday, September 8

NEW YORK / CRETE

Depart from New York or another departure city and fly to Heraklion on the Greek Island of Crete.

Saturday, September 9

HERAKLION

Arrive in Crete, meet your tour manager and proceed to the hotel, located in the heart of the Old Quarter. This afternoon, relax or explore the town's narrow streets and marketplace within the walls of the historic town center. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant. **FOUR NIGHTS,**

ASTORIA CAPSIS HOTEL (D)

Sunday, September 10

HERAKLION / VATHYPETRO / ARCHANES

This morning tour the Archaeological Museum in Heraklion and its world-class collection of Bronze Age relics. Then, drive to Vathypetro, a nearby site where archaeologists have unearthed a Minoan villa including winemaking facilities and storerooms full of clay jars for storing wine. Continue to the town of Archanes, the center of this wine-growing region. Walk through the village and enjoy lunch in a local restaurant. Afterwards, enjoy a wine tasting at a local vineyard before returning to Heraklion for dinner tonight at your leisure in one of the local tavernas. (B,L)

Monday, September 11

KNOSSOS / KRITSA / ELOUNDA / SPINALONGA

Following breakfast, travel by motor coach to the Minoan Palace of Knossos, an extensive archaeological site that dates to 1900 B.C. Following an extensive visit to the palace, travel to the village of Kritsa, renowned for its weaving tradition and the site of one of the most lovely and noteworthy Byzantine churches on the island, Panagia Kera, containing some of the best-preserved medieval frescos on Crete. Continue north up the coast of the Gulf of Mirambelo, to the resort town of Elounda. After lunch, embark on a short boat ride to the island of Spinalonga, where we visit one of the most important and finest fortresses in Crete. Return to Heraklion and enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

(B,L,D)

Tuesday, September 12

LASITHI PLATEAU

Today, drive south from Heraklion to Mt. Dicty, the legendary birthplace of Zeus. Visit the Dictean Cave, with its impressive stalactites and stalagmites. Cross a barren wall of mountains and descend into a breathtakingly beautiful valley 2,800 feet above sea level. On the Lasithi Plateau, windmills pump water to irrigate fields of potatoes and fruit and nut orchards. Take in the surrounding scenery of this lush and fertile region, and stop for lunch in the village of Krassi, followed by a visit to the monastery of Kera Kardiotissa. This evening is on your own to explore the tavernas around our hotel. (B,L)

Wednesday, September 13

HERAKLION / GORTYS / PHAISTOS / HANIA

Following breakfast, depart Heraklion and travel through the fertile Mesara Plain filled with olive groves to the Greco-Roman city of Gortys, where the earliest code of law in Europe was inscribed. Afterward, explore the ancient city of Phaistos, the second most important Minoan site in Crete, where the curious Phaistos Disk was discovered in 1903. After lunch, continue to the town of Hania, which preserves its aristocratic appearance in the Venetian old quarter and waterfront. This evening dine at a local restaurant in the Old Quarter. **FOUR NIGHTS, HOTEL PORTO VENEZIANO (B,L,D)**

Thursday, September 14

ARKADI / ADELE / RETHYMNO

Following breakfast, travel east to the famous Monastery of Arkadi, founded during the Byzantine period and a center of learning in the 16th century. Continue to the Grecotel farm near Adele, where we



Above: Hania's old port
Top: Phaistos Disk

learn about traditional farming methods and enjoy lunch. Then, continue to the seaside town of Rethymno and visit the Fortezza, the 16th-century Venetian fortress overlooking the harbor. Return to Hania in the late afternoon and enjoy an evening at leisure. (B,L)

Friday, September 15

IMBROS GORGE

Crete is carved with a dozen major gorges. Today we travel to the southern side of the island to visit the stunning Imbros Gorge. For those who wish to hike, we will travel from the village of Imbros down a winding rocky path through conifer forest, eventually taking in views of the Libyan Sea and the island of Gavdos. Non-hikers can explore the trailhead and enjoy a visit to a World War II memorial in Hora Sfakia and a Venetian fortress in Frangokastello before meeting the group at the end of the trail. Enjoy a hearty lunch in the seaside village of

Komitades before returning to Hania for individual activities. (B,L)

Saturday, September 16

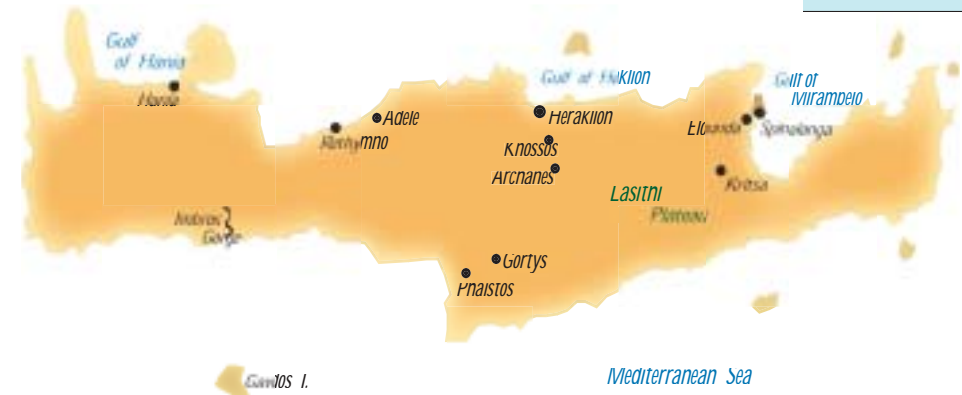
HANIA

After breakfast, enjoy a walking tour of fortified Kastelli Hill and the Venetian church of Aghios Frankiskos (St. Francis), which houses the Archaeological Museum. The balance of the day is at leisure. Tonight, enjoy a festive farewell dinner in a local taverna. (B,D)

Sunday, September 17

HANIA / ATHENS / NEW YORK

Following breakfast this morning, proceed to the airport for a flight to Athens and onward to New York or your originating city. (B)



FACULTY LECTURER



William F. Wyatt, Jr., Emeritus Professor of Classics, will join us as Brown's faculty lecturer on this wonderful trip. Professor Wyatt, who has taught at Brown since 1967 and for many years chaired the Department of Classics, is an expert in the field of classical antiquity and has recently taught courses at Brown such as "The Greeks" and "Introduction to Greek Drama." He is an extremely accomplished lecturer, editor and author—his Op-Ed pieces appeared with some frequency in the *Providence Journal*—and in 1997 he was honored with the Harriet W. Sheridan Award for Distinguished Contribution to Teaching and Learning at Brown. He lectured at the University of Crete in 1985 and looks forward eagerly to spending more time on that wonderful island. A favorite of many alumni, Professor Wyatt has done a number of popular alumni programs, including the sold-out "Alumni College in Greece" and two recent cruises to the Greek Islands. He looks forward to joining you on this exciting journey.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Program Rate	\$ 3,595
Per person based on double occupancy	
Single Supplement	\$ 495
Subject to availability	
Sample Airfare from New York	\$1,114
Quoted as of February 2006 and subject to change. Rates from other gateway cities are available upon request. A \$45 service fee per person applies to all airline tickets purchased through Siemer & Hand Travel.	

Program Rate Includes

- ❖ Eight nights accommodations in Crete
- ❖ Lectures and field commentary by Brown Emeritus Professor of Classics William F. Wyatt, Jr.
- ❖ Breakfast daily, six lunches and four dinners, including festive welcome and farewell dinners
- ❖ All sightseeing and activities as outlined in the itinerary, including entrance fees
- ❖ Siemer & Hand tour manager
- ❖ Gratuities to drivers and local guides
- ❖ All transfers with luggage handling at the hotels in Crete for those passengers traveling with the group
- ❖ Pre-trip service, suggested reading list and pre-departure information

Program Rate Excludes: International airfare, airport and departure taxes; meals and beverages other than those specified as included; optional activities; charges for items of a personal nature including laundry, beverages and excess baggage charges; baggage and trip cancellation insurance; independent travel arrangements; and passport fees.

Tour Size: The program cost is based on a minimum of 20 participants and a maximum of 40 participants.

Health: All participants must be in good health. This program is active and involves walking over uneven surfaces and climbing stairs. All locations may not be handicapped accessible. Any condition that may require special medical attention or other accommodation must be reported at the time of your reservation.

Deposit and Final Payment: Reservations will be accepted in order of receipt if accompanied by a completed reservation form and a deposit of \$500 per person. Final payment for all land costs is due by July 11, 2006, and must be paid by check.

Cancellations and Refunds: Refunds, less a cancellation fee of \$275 per person, will be made if we are notified in writing on or before July 11, 2006. No refunds are granted after that date.

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is strongly recommended. To protect for the following three conditions, insurance must be purchased within fifteen days of your initial tour deposit: 1) a pre-existing condition pertaining to you, a travel companion or an immediate family member; 2) unforeseeable events or their consequences, including cancellations by an airline, cruise line or third-party tour operator as a result of financial insolvency; and 3) terrorist act(s) that occur in your departure city or in a city that is a scheduled destination for your trip and within 30 days of the scheduled departure date.

Responsibility: A detailed statement of limitations and exclusions of liability of Siemer & Hand Travel, Inc., Brown University and the Brown Alumni Association for loss of property, injury, illness or death will be provided to passengers upon enrollment and is available to prospective travelers upon request.

Siemer & Hand Travel, Inc.: Seller of fine travel programs since 1959. www.siemerhand.com
CST 1004239-10

Brochure photos courtesy of the Greek Tourist Board.

RESERVATION FORM

Please make check payable to and mail to Siemer & Hand Travel, 750 Battery Street, Suite 300, San Francisco, CA 94111. Tel: (800)451-4321

Enclosed is a deposit for \$_____ (\$500 per person) to hold _____ place(s) on **Crete: A Window on the Ancient World**. Or, charge my deposit to:

MasterCard Visa Diner's Club Amex Discover

Card Number _____ Expiration _____

Signature as it appears on credit card

Name _____ Class/Parent Yr. _____

Name _____ Class/Parent Yr. _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Telephone:

Home _____ Business _____

Email _____ Fax _____

I request trip cancellation insurance covering the full trip cost. By purchasing the coverage now, I am also protected for the three conditions stated under Travel Insurance in the General Information section above. Multiply the full program cost (including any non-refundable air) by .055 for each traveler for a total premium of \$_____.

Accommodations:

I wish to have single accommodations at an additional cost of \$495 (subject to availability)

I will share accommodations with: _____

I am willing to share with another participant:

smoker non-smoker (shares cannot be guaranteed)

Please make roundtrip flight arrangements from: _____

I/We have read the General Information section and agree to the terms.

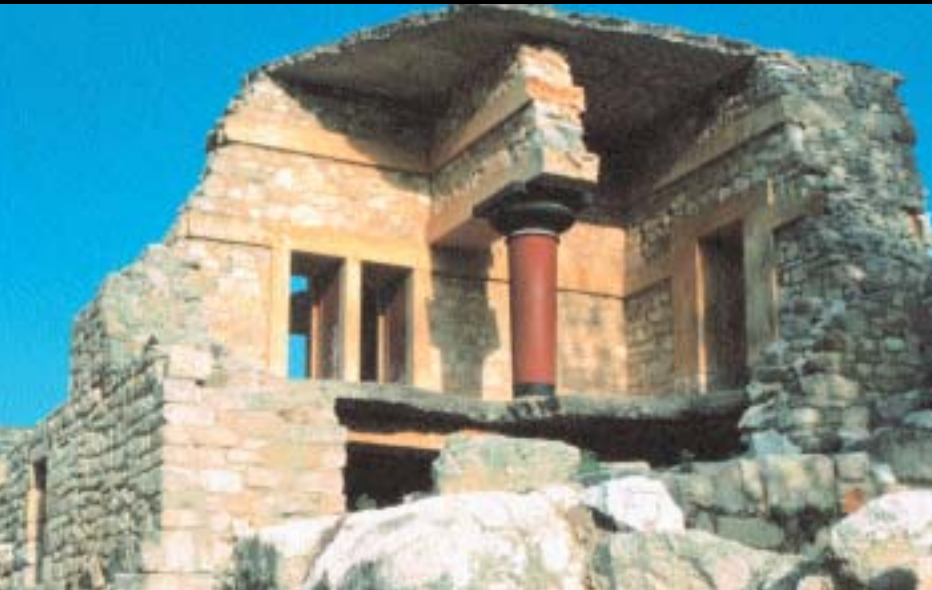
Signature(s) : _____

Date: _____

BRNCRE6

CRETE

A Window on the Ancient World



The archaeological site of Knossos
Cover photo: Minos and Ariadne, detail from a red-figure
krater (pots in which to mix water and wine)

For further information, please call:
SIEMER & HAND TRAVEL at (800) 451-4321.

Bring a Friend and Save

We realize that a wonderful trip can be made even more special when shared with friends. Therefore, we are pleased to offer a savings of \$150 per person to you and to any of your friends who join you on this trip, even if they register at a later date.
(Please note that friends must reside at different addresses.)



Brown Travelers
Brown University
Box 1859
Providence, RI 02912-1859

PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 90
Santa Clara, CA