

MSA CULTURAL TOURS NEWSLETTER FALL 2020

Dear Fellow Travelers,

It has been many months since we last communicated with you. In February 2020, the Morocco tour (in cooperation with The Second Half: Lifelong Learning Institute) was full, with a waiting list. But as the month of March approached it became apparent the Covid-19 pandemic would for the immediate future change how we lived and the plans we had made. The first causality for Louise and me was postponing the 23rd Annual MSA Congress scheduled in May 2020 in Gibraltar to May 2021.

MOROCCO OCTOBER 2021

Shortly thereafter we made the decision to move the Morocco Tour from October 2020 to June 2021. But since that time as Virginia Wolf wrote, “The nights now are full of wind and destruction.” In less eloquent words the pandemic continues to ravage the U.S. with no signs of abating. For that reason, we have moved the tour further into the future to the beginning of October 2021. While there is no guarantee there will be a vaccine available by then, that has been properly tested and endorsed by the scientific community.

As was to be anticipated, fear of the pandemic, and changing tour dates have motivated a number of fellow travelers to withdraw from the tour. The result is the tour is open again for those interested in visiting the Land of the Berbers a year from now. The itinerary will remain exactly the same as the one posted on the MSA Tours website, (www.msaculturaltours.com). We cannot provide the exact dates at this time because October 2021 airline schedules are not yet available, but the dates will be very similar to the 2020 dates. For those concerned about the pandemic we

will offer a full refund prior to July 15, 2021. By then we should have a good assessment on the status of international travel and success of a vaccine.

The tour will have a full time Moroccan tour guide/manager traveling with us. Tony and Kathy Miraglia will be joining us to contribute their knowledge of the abundant art treasures of Morocco. Tony and I have also rescheduled our Second Half course on the History and Art of Morocco to spring 2021 in hope that conditions will provide a safe environment to teach the course in person.

CORSICA AND SARDINIA OCTOBER 2022. MARE NOSTRUM

Louise and I had planned to do Morocco in 2020 and Sardinia and Corsica in 2021. But like so many plans, events, and activities, this schedule has been pushed forward a year into the future. The new schedule is to tour Sardinia and Corsica in October 2022 and offer a course called MARE NOSTRUM, in the Second Half Spring Semester 2022.

In the meantime, please stay safe, follow the CDC and Commonwealth guidelines and we will be traveling together soon. Be sure and vote.

Louise & Ben Taggie

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