

Duke TRAVELS

Passage From Ireland to Iceland
Including the Scottish and Faroe Isles
Aboard the New 152-Guest Expedition Cruise Ship Vega
June 1 - 15, 2023

**New Rates
& Special
Inclusions**



Dr. Mary "Tolly" Boatwright
Professor Emerita of Ancient History in the Department of Classical Studies

duke-travels.com



Duke TRAVELS

Dear Duke Travelers,

Recently we mailed a brochure for “Passage from Ireland to Iceland” that featured incorrect rates due to a printer’s error. **In this updated brochure you will find the correct rates which, depending on the stateroom category, are \$2,000 to \$2,300 less per person than those printed in error. Please also see the list of special inclusions noted at the bottom of this page.**

We are pleased to have engaged Thalassa Journeys to offer this exceptional travel-study voyage from Dublin to Reykjavik to explore Europe’s northernmost islands— Scotland’s Hebrides, Orkneys, and Shetlands, Denmark’s Faroes, and Iceland—a remote world known for its rugged landscapes, picturesque villages, and warm and welcoming inhabitants.

First of many encounters with the wonder of nature will be the famed Giant’s Causeway on Northern Ireland’s Antrim Coast, then on to the Hebrides and the ancient castles of the Isle of Skye. A day in the Scottish Highlands is followed by calls in the Orkney and Shetland Islands, where the Neolithic sites of Skara Brae and Jarlshof compete for attention with the seabirds— guillemots, kittiwakes, and white-tailed eagles—that abound there. Some 250 miles to the northwest are the Faroes, a self-governing archipelago within the Kingdom of Denmark, known for their Viking heritage, traditional way of life, and a plethora of puffins.

On the seventh day of this voyage, sail to Iceland and spend five days exploring this immensely fascinating island forged by the twin crucibles of ice and fire, and home to some of the most extraordinary geology on the planet. Sail into magnificent fjords, encounter volcanic landscapes of lava fields and hot springs, magnificent waterfalls, and ice-capped mountains, and marvel at the thousands upon thousands of puffins, terns, and guillemots that nest there.

We are pleased to have Tolly Boatwright, Professor Emerita of Ancient History in the Department of Classical Studies at Duke, as a guest lecturer on this program. Complementing Professor Boatwright’s lectures on history will be a team of naturalists and experts familiar with these islands in the North Atlantic.

The vessel for this cruise will be the Swann Hellenic *Vega*, a state-of-the-art, new-generation expedition cruise ship built in Finland and launched in 2022. Accommodating only 152 guests in superb staterooms and balcony suites, *Vega* features elegant common areas and the most modern mechanical and environmentally conscious technology.

We hope you will travel with Duke on this learning exploration of some of Europe’s most intriguing and seldom-visited islands.

Forever Duke,



Beth Ray-Schroeder '83
Senior Director, Duke Travels
Duke Alumni Engagement and Development

DUKE LECTURER MARY T. (“TOLLY”) BOATWRIGHT



Mary T. (“Tolly”) Boatwright is Professor Emerita of Ancient History in the Department of Classical Studies at Duke University, where she began in 1979 while finishing her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, Ann

Arbor (1980). Her research interests and teaching, focused chiefly on imperial Roman history and Latin historiography, have joyfully carried her throughout the far-flung Roman empire. In this she follows Hadrian, the inquisitive emperor who transformed Rome and the provinces during his reign (A.D. 117-138) and who inspired her first two books, *Hadrian and the City of Rome* (1987) and *Hadrian and the Cities of the Roman Empire* (2000).

Our “Voyage to the Scottish Isles, the Faroes and Iceland” allows her to surpass Hadrian, much to the chagrin of this driven man whose astounding Hadrian’s Wall was “to separate the Romans from the barbarians” in northern England. Tolly shifted from Rome’s emperor to others in her *Peoples of the Roman World* (2012), where among other groups she investigates what Romans loosely categorized as “Northern Barbarians.” In her recent *Imperial Women of Rome: Power, Gender, Context* (2021) she investigates the activities and roles of Rome’s most elite women – the wives, mothers, and daughters of emperors – within gender constructs of the ancient world. Her year in 2019 as President-elect of the Society for Classical Studies, the association’s highest honor, contributes to her interest in women in powerful positions. With fellow Duke Travelers Tolly looks forward to exploring Roman perceptions of their places in their worlds.

Cover photo: Godafoss waterfall

SPECIAL INCLUSIONS

Duke Travelers with Thalassa Journeys enjoy many exclusive arrangements including a Welcome Dinner in Dublin; a program of comprehensive, custom-designed shore excursions including lunch on full day tours; gratuities to drivers and guides; Duke cocktail party and designated seating in the dining room aboard the ship; private lectures and discussions by the Duke faculty; group airport/hotel/pier transfers at designated times; and the services of a Thalassa Journeys Tour Manager.



Seydisfjordur, Iceland

ITINERARY

Thursday, June 1, 2023
DEPART THE US

Friday, June 2
DUBLIN, IRELAND

Arrive in Dublin and transfer to a deluxe hotel for the night. Gather this evening for a welcome dinner with fellow travelers. (D)

Saturday, June 3
DUBLIN/EMBARKATION

After breakfast at the hotel, tour Dublin's city center, known for its Georgian architecture. Visit the beautifully decorated State Apartments of Dublin Castle and its undercroft, where small boats once brought provisions via an underground river. A tour of Trinity College focuses on its famed library, housing the Book of Kells and other treasures. In late afternoon, transfer to the pier to embark Vega, and set sail for Northern Ireland. (B,L,D)

Sunday, June 4
**PORTRUSH, NORTHERN IRELAND/
ISLAY ISLAND, SCOTLAND**

Today we call at Portrush, a small resort town on Northern Ireland's spectacularly scenic Antrim Coast. Our excursion takes us to the nearby Giant's Causeway, a UNESCO World Heritage site of over 40,000 interlocking, hexagonal basalt columns formed by the cooling of molten lava some 6 million years ago. About 40 miles north of Portrush lies Islay Island, the southernmost of the Hebrides, which is famous for its large populations of sea birds—and even more famous for its numerous

whisky distilleries. (B,L,D)

Monday, June 5
PORTREE, ISLE OF SKYE, SCOTLAND

Portree serves as our base for exploring the magnificent Isle of Skye, known for its stark beauty. Visit massive Dunvegan Castle, said to be the oldest continuously inhabited castle in the country, which sits in the midst of a 42,000-acre estate, the historic seat of Clan MacLeod. There will also be time to explore the charming town of Portree. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, June 6
ULLAPOOL/INVEREWE GARDENS

Today we set out on a scenic drive through the Scottish Highlands, pausing at the spectacular mile-long Corrieshalloch Gorge, before continuing to Inverewe Gardens on the shores of Loch Ewe. Designed by Osgood MacKenzie, the gardens were opened to the public soon after the end of WWII and became part of the National Trust in 1953. The warm currents of the North Atlantic Drift create a welcoming climate where exotic plants from around the world flourish at a latitude more northerly than Moscow. Himalayan rhododendrons, Tasmanian eucalyptus and many Chilean and South African plants are featured here, together with a large collection of flora from New Zealand. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, June 7
STROMNESS, ORKNEY ISLANDS

Stromness is our gateway to Neolithic Orkney, an extensive area on the island of Mainland designated as a UNESCO World Heritage site because of its wealth of prehistoric ruins. Discover the Standing Stones of Stennes, the

henge and stone circle of the Ring of Brodgar, and Skara Brae, the best-preserved Neolithic village in Northern Europe. Explore this fascinating site and the beautifully curated exhibits at the modern visitor center that illustrate what life was like here in the distant past. The cliffs of the island are home to thousands of seabirds, and bird watchers will want to keep a keen eye out for the guillemots, kittiwakes, and white-tailed eagles that abound here. (B,L,D)

Thursday, June 8
LERWICK, SHETLAND ISLANDS

The 100 islands of the Shetland Archipelago were first inhabited during the Stone Age and later ruled by Norsemen for hundreds of years, before being annexed by Scotland in 1472. Vega will dock at the lively harbor of Lerwick, capital of the island and Britain's northernmost town. We begin with an excursion to Jarlshof, beautifully situated on a promontory facing the sea and an extraordinary archaeological site with layers of ruins dating back 5,000. On our return drive to Lerwick, we will watch for small native Shetland ponies, and once in the town, we will visit the Shetland Museum, and perhaps shop for some world-famous Shetland knitwear. (B,L,D)

Friday, June 9
TORSHAVN, FAROE ISLANDS

We call today in the Faroe Islands in the middle of the North Atlantic, seldom visited because they are so remote. We disembark in Torshavn, the small port town that has been the capital of the islands since the 9th century, when the Vikings founded a settlement here. Our



Atlantic puffins



Reykjavik, Iceland, city scape



Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon



Isafjordur, Iceland

exploration includes the quaint old quarter of Tinganes, where small wooden houses are roofed with turf; 16th-century Fort Skansin; the Historical Museum in Hoyvik; and the Museum of Natural History. The Faroes are also a magnet for birds migrating over the North Atlantic, and for those interested, there will be an opportunity to view by local boat the cliffs near Vestmanna that are home to thousands of puffins, fulmars and guillemots. (B,L,D)

Saturday, June 10 HOFN, ICELAND

Höfn, in southeastern Iceland, is a small town perched on a narrow neck of land with awe-inspiring views of Vatnajökull National Park to its north. The town itself is renowned for its lobster catch and hosts an annual Lobster Festival in celebration of its reputation as Iceland's lobster capital. Vatnajökull National Park is Europe's largest and covers 14% of Iceland, encompassing ice caps, waterfalls, glaciers, canyons, craters and volcanoes. The park's Jökulsárlón Lagoon is within easy reach of Höfn and is Iceland's deepest lake, where icebergs float on the surface of the water all year long, offering resting spots for passing seals. (B,L,D)

Sunday, June 11 SEYDISFJORDUR

Seydisfjordur is regarded by many as one of Iceland's most picturesque towns, not only due

to its impressive surroundings, but also because nowhere in Iceland has a community of old wooden buildings been preserved as well as here. Enjoy an easy walk around the old town with a local guide, including a visit to the beautiful Blue Church, an arts and crafts market, Skaffell cultural center, and the Technical Museum which houses the oldest mechanic shop and the first telegraph station in Iceland. (B,L,D)

Monday, June 12 AKUREYRI

As the ship rounds the northeast coast of Iceland en route to Akureyri, look for whales that frequent the waters in this area. From Akureyri, Iceland's second largest city (population 19,000), begin an excursion that will take us to some of the island's most impressive sights, including Lake Myvatn, a volcanic area of incredible geological features that includes hot springs, and boiling mud pots and fumaroles; and magnificent Godafoss waterfall ("Waterfall of the Gods"), formed by the falling waters of a river. Also notable is the flora of this unforgettable place, which we will have the opportunity to observe. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant.
Meals: B, L, D

Tuesday, June 13 GRIMSEY ISLAND

Grimsey is the northernmost island of Iceland,

jutting out of the ocean with the Arctic Circle running through its center. Grímseyjarhreppur, the only town, is home to some 100 people, most of them intrepid fishermen who work the rich banks that surround the island. Grímsey is one of the best places in Iceland for watching cliff nesting birds like Black-legged Kittiwake, Northern Fulmar, Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill, Black Guillemot, and Murre. The island also has one of Iceland's largest Tern nesting sites and one of the largest Puffin colonies in Iceland. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, June 14 ISAFJORDUR AND VIGUR

Arrive in the morning at the tiny fishing village of Isafjordur, built at the foot of a high volcanic plateau in the center of Westfjords Peninsula. After a visit to the Westfjord Heritage Museum, board the ship's Zodiacs and motor to the small island of Vigur, known as the "Pearl of the Western Fjords." Vigur is a significant seabird sanctuary that includes colonies of arctic terns, puffins, black guillemots, and eider ducks. We will also visit the only farm on the island, which has been in the same family for generations. (B,L,D)

Thursday, June 15 REYKJAVIK/DISEMBARKATION

After breakfast aboard, disembark *Vega* and transfer to the airport for flights homeward. (B)

THE NEW EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP VEGA



Observation Lounge



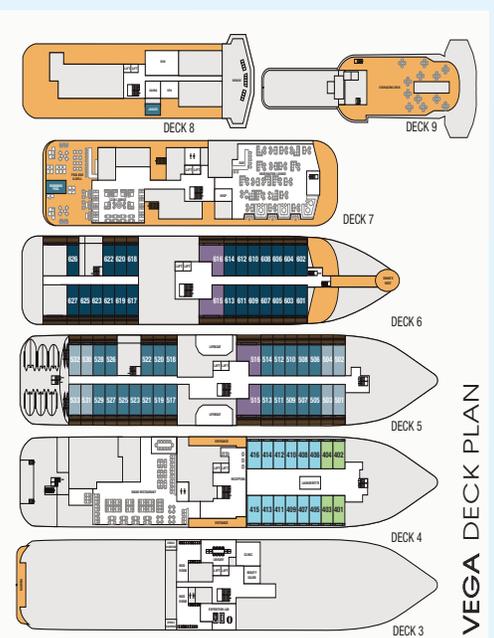
Oceanview Stateroom



Balcony Suite



Café/Bar with swimming pool



Built in Finland and launched in July 2022, Swan Hellenic's Vega is a new-generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 10,250 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 250 passengers, Vega will accommodate a maximum of 152 guests in 76 spacious staterooms and balcony suites. The low guest density results in one of the most generous indoor and outdoor space-to-guest ratios among cruise ships.

Vega has been designed to meet the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code for ships navigating in Polar regions. Its high PC5 Category A ice-strengthened hull, and other technical and mechanical features, allow the ship to cruise the world's remote regions in safety and utmost comfort.

Technologically advanced hybrid engines and a system of powerful batteries make it possible for the ship to cruise in ecologically sensitive areas, leaving minimal footprint, while a computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 120 experienced European officers and international crew members, Vega will carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, kayaks, and a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) that will reveal marine life in the deep. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, basic Wi-Fi and USB connections as well as other

amenities. Of the ship's 76 staterooms, 60 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge that is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for lectures and presentations; a club lounge; a restaurant that accommodates all guests at one seating; an outdoor café/bar that surrounds the heated swimming pool; a wellness area with gym, spa, and sauna that includes an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; a "mud room" with lockers for storing expedition gear; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis.

RATES

DUE TO A PRINTER'S ERROR, INCORRECT RATES APPEARED IN A PRIOR BROCHURE FOR THIS PROGRAM. BELOW ARE THE ACCURATE RATES.

All accommodations aboard Vega are spacious staterooms and balcony suites. They are elegantly decorated, face outside, affording sea views, and include a queen-size bed that can be arranged as two twin beds, a spacious bathroom, mini-refrigerator, safe, ample closet space, climate control, telephone, TV, Wi-Fi, and USB connections, as well as other amenities.

CATEGORY	DESCRIPTION	PER PERSON DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
E	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401 - 404.	\$ 10,590
D	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405 - 416.	\$ 10,990
C	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501 - 504, 530 - 533.	\$ 11,790
B	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505 - 514, 517 - 529.	\$ 12,190
A	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601 - 614, 617 - 627.	\$ 12,990
AA	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 440 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 515, 516, 615 & 616.	\$ 14,590

SAVINGS FOR SOLO TRAVELERS

A limited number of cabins are available for single occupancy in categories E to B at no additional charge.

Additional single cabins are available at a supplement of 50% of the per person double occupancy rate, instead of the normal 70% supplement. For solo travelers wishing to share a cabin, Thalassa Journeys will attempt to pair you with an alumna with whom you can communicate in advance to determine compatibility.

PROGRAM INCLUSIONS

The rates are all-inclusive. There are no hidden costs and no additional charges such as shore excursions or embarkation and port charges. Other than the international airfare and expenses of a personal nature, all else is included. Specifically, the rates include:

- One night at a deluxe hotel in Dublin.
- Welcome dinner in Dublin, and lunch on the day of embarkation.
- 12-night cruise aboard Swan Hellenic's *Vega* as described in the itinerary.
- Airport/hotel/pier transfers at designated times, and handling of luggage.
- Program of lectures and discussions with Duke faculty member, Tolly Boatwright.
- Presentations from a team of onboard experts.
- Complete program of shore landings and activities ashore, led by professional local guides.
- All meals aboard the ship, with a selection of wines, beer and soft drinks during lunch and dinner.
- Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions aboard the ship hosted by the captain.
- Open bar with select alcoholic beverages.
- Coffee, including espresso and cappuccino, tea and soft drinks throughout the day and night.
- 24-hour room service.
- Gratuities to the ship's crew, guides, porters and drivers.
- Basic Wi-Fi aboard the ship.
- The services of an experienced Thalassa Journeys Trip Director.
- All local taxes and service charges, including port and embarkation taxes.
- Complete pre-departure material.

NOT INCLUDED: International airfare; travel insurance; expenses of a personal nature; any items not mentioned in the itinerary or the above inclusions.

**FOR RESERVATIONS
AND INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT
DUKE TRAVELS AT
(919) 684-2988
or
duketravels@duke.edu**

REGISTRATION

Enclosed is my check or credit card no. for \$ _____ (\$ 1,500 per person) as a deposit to hold _____ place(s) on **Passage From Ireland to Iceland, including the Scottish and Faroe Isles**, June 1 - 15, 2023 with Duke Travels. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

To reserve your place, please contact **Duke Travels at (919) 684-2988** or **duketravels@duke.edu**, or complete and return this form with your deposit of \$1,500 per person by mail with credit card or a check payable to **Thalassa Journeys** and mail with this registration form to: **Duke Travels, Box 90572, Durham, NC 27708-0572**
If you mail in your reservation, please give Duke Travels a call so that space can be held.

AmEx Discover Visa MasterCard

No. _____

Exp. _____ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code _____

PLEASE SELECT CABIN CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1st choice _____ 2nd choice _____ 3rd choice _____

Double Occupancy Single Occupancy (Inquire for rates)

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

FIRST MIDDLE LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE (DAY) _____

(EVENING) _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

E-MAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____

Each participant must sign below: I/We have read the "General Information" section and agree to its terms.

GENERAL INFORMATION

PAYMENT SCHEDULE: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure. Payment can be made by personal check or charged to a credit card.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS: All cancellations are subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. Cancellations received 61-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 60 days of departure are subject to 100% cancellation penalties. Requests for cancellations must be made in writing. No refunds will be made for any part of this program in which you choose not to participate.

INSURANCE: We strongly recommend the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident. Baggage insurance is also recommended. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement.

ITINERARY: The itinerary, accommodations and arrangements are subject to change at the discretion of Thalassa Journeys.

RESPONSIBILITY: Please read carefully the following terms and conditions, which constitute the sole, legally enforceable agreements between the traveler and Thalassa Journeys. Thalassa Journeys acts solely as agents for the traveler with respect to all transportation, hotel and other tour arrangements. In that capacity, we exercise all reasonable care possible to ensure the traveler's safety and satisfaction, but, we neither assume nor bear any responsibility or liability for any injury, death, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity arising in connection with the services of any ship, airplane, train, automobile, motor coach, carriage or other conveyance, or the actions of any third-party, involved in carrying the traveler or in affecting these tours. We are not responsible for damages, additional expenses, or any other losses due to cancellation, delay or other changes in air or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, civil disturbances, acts or threats of terrorism, travel warnings or bans, termination or suspension of war risks or other carrier insurance, quarantine, acts of God or other causes beyond our control. All such losses must be borne by the traveler, and tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. In the event of cancellation, delay or rescheduling mandated by any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by us, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as we are able to recover on the traveler's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc., but, we shall not have any obligation or liability to the traveler beyond the foregoing. We reserve the right to make alterations to the tour's itinerary and to substitute hotels, transportation methods, or lecturers if this is required. We reserve the right to cancel, delay, or reschedule any tour prior to departure, and, so long as this is not due to any of the aforesaid causes beyond our control, the traveler shall be entitled to a full refund of all monies paid to that point if he/she so desires. No refund shall be made for any unused portion of any tour. By forwarding their deposit(s), the traveler certifies that he/she and/or their dependents, minors or others covered thereby do not have any mental, physical or other condition of disability that could create a hazard for them or other travelers. We reserve the right to decline to accept or to decline to retain any person as a member of any tour should such person's health, condition or actions adversely affect or threaten the welfare or safety of other travelers or impede the tour. Baggage or valuables brought on the tour shall be transported, handled or stored at the traveler's risk entirely, and, we shall bear no liability or responsibility for any damage or other loss thereto. Resolution of any disputes arising hereunder shall be affected exclusively in the state or federal courts presiding in Florida, pursuant to applicable Florida law.

RATES: Tour costs are based upon current airfares, tariffs, and currency values. While we do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change.

**CST 2138603-50
ST 42048**

Duke TRAVELS

Box 90572
Durham, NC 27708

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**New Rates
& Special
Inclusions**

Passage From Ireland to Iceland, including the Scottish and Faroe Isles A Voyage of Discovery Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship, Vega June 1 - 15, 2023, With Dr. Tolly Boatwright

Skara Brae, Orkney Islands, Scotland

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or duketravels@duke.edu**