

# Coastal Life and Economies in Roman times

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OXREP is pleased to announce the following workshop:

## Coastal Life and Economies in Roman Times

CNRS-Oxford Collaboration scheme 2012

15th November 2012

In recent years, economic historians and archaeologists have increasingly turned their attention to the role of maritime trade and the economic prosperity of the coastal regions during Roman times. The boom in the coastal economy across the Mediterranean is apparent in the numbers of recorded shipwrecks, over 1500 in the northern Mediterranean alone. Pan-Mediterranean commerce in the Roman period led to substantial growth of port cities and their associated foodstuff and amphora production infrastructures. Nevertheless, while much research has focused on large-scale ports such as Portus (Italy) and Caesarea Maritima (Israel), far less work has been undertaken on the concept of coastal life in Roman times.

Indeed, the apparently simple picture of an overall increase in trade infrastructure during the Roman period may well overshadow important localised patterns of coastal development. Detailed analyses of the patterns in shipwrecks have revealed that regional and local dynamics, such as the increasing export-orientated wine and olive oil production of Gaul, Spain, the Adriatic and Africa, the decline in Italian wine exports to these regions and the adoption of different forms of container technology in the western Mediterranean, are clearly observable when the data are analysed at smaller scales. In addition, recent studies on demographics around the Mediterranean in Roman times suggest that a high percentage of the population was living on the coast. Regional studies of coastal economic life in the Mediterranean need to be further integrated in maritime research in order to produce a more fluid and comprehensible picture of the Roman coastal economies.

The workshop will bring together young doctoral students from Oxford and the Centre Camille Jullian in Aix-en-Provence and will address questions such as: What are the determinants of the economic success of port cities both in the Roman period and in Late Antiquity? How did cities invest in their maritime export or import potential? How integrated were smaller coastal settlements, coastal villas, or more inland productive centres in the wider Mediterranean economy? Were these ports only connected with their own territory or also with the territory of more inland cities? Can we identify connectivity along coastal façades, and interaction of both larger and smaller ports with their coastal hinterlands?

Further particulars of the **conference presentations** on the **15<sup>th</sup> of November** by the doctoral and young post-doctoral students are listed below.

15 November 2012

**Coastal Life and Economies in Roman Times Conference\***

Ioannou Centre for Classical and Byzantine Studies, 66 St Giles', Oxford

9.00–9.15 Welcome

9.15–10.00 Katia Schörle: *The coastal life of Lepcis Magna: recent archaeological discoveries*

10.00–10.45 Alkiviadis Ginalis: *New light on the economy and coastal life of Skiathos, Greece*

10.45 – 11.00 Coffee Break

11.00–11.45 Candace Rice: *Disentangling Coastal Economies: South–western Turkey in the Roman period.*

11.45–12.30 H  l  ne Rougier: *Structures and networks of port activities in Aquileia: 1st century BC – early 3rd century AD*

12.30–13.15 Alessia Contino: *African amphorae from a storehouse in Testaccio, the commercial and harbour area of ancient Rome*

13.15–14.00 Lunch

14.00–14.30 Raja Amri: *Fishing and related activities in Roman North Africa*

14.30–15.15 Ga  lle Delpy: *Seasonality of coastal food–producing activities: a case study using zooarchaeological methodologies*

15.15–15.30 Tea Break

15.30–16.15 Souen Fontaine: *Roman glass trade in the Mediterranean and inland provinces: some considerations on the archaeological data from the harbours of the east coast of Gallia Narbonensis*

16.15–17.00 Carmela Franco: *Sicilian amphorae (1<sup>st</sup>–6<sup>th</sup> centuries AD): an economic analysis of production and distribution*

17.00–17.45 Maxine Anastasi: *Island interactions: Pottery from Roman Malta*

17.45–18.30 **Round Table discussions** chaired by Marie-Brigitte Carre (Director of the Centre Camille Jullian-CNRS UMR 7299), Michel Bonifay (Centre Camille Jullian-CNRS UMR 7299), Andrew Wilson (University of Oxford), and Nicholas Purcell (University of Oxford)

18.30 Wine reception

RSVP please: <mailto:coastal.life.in.roman.times@gmail.com>

\* all presentations include a 15-minute question time.

Sponsored by the CNRS-Oxford Collaboration Scheme 2012:

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