

CEAUCP - Tróia Summer School

Roman Ruins of Tróia (Portugal)

3rd to 29th June 2013



2. Location and archaeological site

The fieldschool will take place at Tróia, a beautiful sand peninsula 17 km long that is today a touristic resort due to its white sand beaches on the Atlantic Ocean (fig. 2). Part of it belongs to the Sado Estuary Natural Reserve and a specific area is classified as a Botanical Reserve due to the rarity of a number of plants in the sand dunes of Tróia.

It is located in the center south of Portugal, only 50 km from Lisbon, the capital of Portugal, and only a 15 minute boat trip from Setúbal, a city that goes back to Medieval Ages and has 90,000 inhabitants. The Setúbal Bay, that also bathes Tróia, is classified by UNESCO as one of The Most Beautiful Bays in the World (www.world-bays.com).



Fig. 2 – The Tróia peninsula.



Fig. 3 – Fish-salting factory.

It is in this sand spit between the Sado River and the Atlantic Ocean, belonging in Roman times to the city of *Salacia Imperatoria Augusta*, in the province of *Lusitania*, that were built a number of fish-salting factories (fig. 3) to produce salted fish and fish sauces like the famous *garum*. These were put in amphorae and carried by boat to many different regions of the Mediterranean and to Rome, the capital of the Empire. The production center founded in the early 1st c.

employed many people and developed into a town with houses, baths, wells, cemeteries and at a late moment, a Paleo-Christian basilica with painted walls well preserved (fig. 4).



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Fig. 4 – Buildings of the Roman Ruins of Tróia. a: houses; b: baths; c: painted wall from the basilica; d: mausoleum; e: cemetery.

When the Roman settlement was abandoned in the 6th c., it was buried in sand dunes that were responsible for its out of the common preservation. A number of walls are preserved up to 4 m high and a number of the fish-salting vats are complete, and some still keep the fish bones from the last production in the bottom. The intense economic activity caused by the proximity to the ocean and the river and the early abandonment make the site very rich in archaeological finds (**fig. 5**), specially different types of pottery like sigillata and amphorae but also metal objects like coins or bone objects.



Fig. 5 – Archaeological finds from Tróia.

3. Program

It is in this site that will take place the fieldschool and the main project to start in 2013 is the excavation of a large fish-salting workshop, only partially dug in the 70's, that is still half covered by sand and that has large vats 2.15m deep. The main goals are to uncover its complete plan; make a sounding next to the outside wall to understand its construction and hopefully date it; excavate one vat to study and date the abandonment levels and hopefully find the remains of last fish-salting production in the bottom.

Pottery washing, inventory, workshops and lectures about the Roman occupation in the region and archaeological methods and finds will take place after the excavation hours.

The weekly schedule will be the following:

Tróia Summer School Programme							
Schedule - 1st week							
Time table	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
07h00	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast		
07h30	Excavation	Excavation	Excavation	Excavation	Excavation		
10h00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break		
10h30	Excavation	Excavation	Excavation	Excavation	Excavation	Full-day excursion	Free day
13h00	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break		
16h00	Pottery washing and inventory	Pottery washing and inventory	Half-day excursion	Pottery washing and inventory	Free afternoon		
18h00	Lecture or workshop	Lecture or workshop		Lecture or workshop			
19h00	Time off	Time off	Time off	Time off	Time off		
20h00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner

- Lectures and workshops

There will be three lectures or workshops a week, in a total of twelve. The lectures will be taught by the on-site team and visiting scholars. Themes will be related to the archaeological site of Tróia, the excavation work, the most common archaeological finds and the Roman province of *Lusitania*, nowadays Portugal, focusing the Sado valley in particular.

The lectures will be the following:

- ❖ "Tróia in Lusitania and in the Roman Empire" by Inês Vaz Pinto
- ❖ "Archaeological excavation at Tróia – method and practice" by Ana Patrícia Magalhães
- ❖ "Funerary rituals at Roman Tróia" by João Almeida
- ❖ "Different sites, different people? The Southern coast of Lusitania by Catarina Viegas
- ❖ "Settlement patterns in Lusitania" by Maria da Conceição Lopes

The workshops will be the following:

- ❖ "Archaeological finds: how to divide and classify them?" by Patricia Brum
- ❖ "The analysis of fish bones: *salsamenta* and fish sauces " by Sónia Gabriel



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- ❖ "Drawing archaeological objects: skills or technique?" by Ana Patrícia Magalhães and Patrícia Brum
- ❖ "The analysis of mammal bones" by Mariana Nabais
- ❖ "How to distinguish Italic, Gaulish, Hispanic and African Sigillata?" by Ana Patrícia Magalhães
- ❖ "How to distinguish Lusitanian from imported Roman amphorae?" by Inês Vaz Pinto
- ❖ "From bones to bodies" by Margarida Figueiredo



Fig. 6 – Examples of archaeological activities subject to workshops.

- Travel

The fieldschool program will include a weekly full day cultural trip and one half day excursion during the week. Tours will be guided by specialists or local guides, and archaeological museums and sites will be preferential, but not exclusive destinations:

Half-day excursions:

- ❖ Guided walk along the sand dunes and Caldeira Lagoon at Tróia – “The geological evolution and natural environment”
- ❖ Guided tour to Setúbal (ancient *Caetobriga*), the city across the river from Tróia
- ❖ Boat trip to watch the famous dolphin population of the Sado River’s estuary
- ❖ Alcácer do Sal, the ancient Roman city of *Imperatoria Salacia* (Archaeological crypt).



Fig. 7 – Dolphin of Tróia.



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Full-day excursions:

- ❖ Lisbon and Belém (National Archaeology Museum, Jerónimos, Fish-salting complex of Rua dos Correeiros, St. George Castle).
- ❖ Mirobriga (Roman city and interpretation center) and the Roman settlement at Pessegueiro island (boat trip and guided tour).
- ❖ The Roman villae at São Cucufate (Beja) and the excavations at the forum of the ancient colony and Roman city of Pax Iulia.
- ❖ The Roman city of Conimbriga, and the Roman villa at Rabaçal.



Fig. 8 – Jerónimos Monastery in Belém.

4. Accomodation

The CEAUCP – Tróia Summer School will be housed at Tróia at a 10 minute-drive from the site. The accommodation will be in well equipped apartments where up to 4 students may share one room with bunk beds. Sheets and towels will be provided. Internet will be available. There will be a common living/dining room where breakfast and dinner will take place.



Fig. 9 – Urban center of Tróia.



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Housing costs are totally included in the program fee; also covered are all the expenses (water, gas, electricity bills), sheets and towels changed once a week, and a weekly cleaning of the apartments.

All meals are included in the program fee. Breakfast and dinner will be prepared or provided at home and lunch will be at the canteen of Troiaresort, except during fieldtrips where meals will be lunch bags or at restaurants. A mid work snack will be provided at the site. In the beginning there will be a special welcome lunch and a farewell dinner at the end.

In leisure times the beach is at a 5 minute walk and a number of beaches are accessible if you ride a bicycle or by car.

5. Cost

For next summer the cost is as follows:

- **Summer Fieldschool (June 3 to 29, 2013) € 2000**

The cost includes fieldwork training, workshops, lectures, housing, fieldtrips and cultural excursions (transportation and admission to sites/museums), transportation from/to the airport, all meals and medical and travelling insurance.

Airfare is not included.

- Student Support

The CEAUCP – Tróia Summer School offers pre-departure information through mail and phone and on-site support through the permanent presence, from Monday to Saturday, of a member of the staff. Transportation from/to the airport will be assured. The fieldwork (**fig. 7**) will be permanently accompanied by archaeologists and so will be the sessions of archaeological materials processing after the field hours. There will be also special lectures and workshops by specialists three times a week and fieldtrips to sites and museums on Saturdays and one afternoon a week.



Fig. 7 – Fieldwork at Tróia.

- No Visa required



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Citizens of the United States of America do not need a visa to enter and stay in Portugal for 90 days or less, but they need a passport valid for six months beyond the length of stay.

- Insurance

The students participating in the “Tróia Summer School” program will have Insurance that covers medical assistance and hospital care in case of accident, injury or sickness, and repatriation for medical assistance if necessary. It also covers traveling assistance in case of delays or luggage loss.

6. Team

(1) Maria da Conceição Lopes

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Professor of the University of Coimbra, Director of the Center of Archaeological Studies of the Universities of Coimbra and Oporto (CEAUCP).

(2) Inês Vaz Pinto

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