

Archaeological dig and holiday in Valtiberina: on the edge of Etruscan civilisation (VIII-VI century B.C.) Sansepolcro (Arezzo, Italy) - summer 2007 (VAL 07)

The archaeological activity carried out near the Tuscan town of Sansepolcro has brought to light the remains of a large settlement (ca. 40 hectares) that was occupied between 800 and 500 B.C. This habitation, completely unknown until a short time ago, is located in the suburb of Trebbio, on the eastern bank of the Tiber River, whose course, in antiquity, marked the border between two important populations of Central Italy, the Etruscans and the Umbrians. The Tiber river valley was not, however, only a border but also a significant natural route for men, commerce, ideas: thanks to these types of influences important cities like Perugia, Veii and Rome flourished. Was the large settlement at Trebbio a frontier site where diverse populations lived together or instead an Etruscan outpost beyond the river? Or perhaps it was an Umbrian city, in which case it would be the only one so far identified. The ceramic evidence found so far seems to indicate the latter hypothesis, but more research is necessary before this hypothesis can be confirmed. Some large ceramic kilns, for the local production of pottery that might have been sold throughout the Tiber valley, as well as many other objects have been found in recent years. In 2007, we hope to find house remains as well as to document the domestic life of the inhabitants of this large centre. Our goal is not only to better understand the social organization, the culture and the economy of the community at Trebbio, but also to document the economic rationale of the commercial network that used the Tiber river, a river that certainly had a major role in the birth and development of some of the greatest civilizations of ancient Italy.

PROGRAM

The Town of Sansepolcro, permit holder for the Trebbio archaeological dig, together with the "Agriturismo Il Trebbio" ("Il Trebbio" holiday farmhouse, www.iltrebbio.it), the University of Siena, the University of Naples "Federico II", the "Centro Studi sul Quaternario onlus" (www.cesq.it) and the "Gruppo Ricerche Archeologiche Sansepolcro", is pleased to offer to foreign and Italian enthusiasts and scholars the chance to participate in the Trebbio excavations on the outskirts of Sansepolcro (Arezzo) in the Tuscan Tiber Valley. The dig campaign will be held from July 21st to August 18th, 2007.

Name of participant: _____

Address of participant: _____

City/Town: _____

Country: _____

E-mail address and phone no. : _____

Emergency contact: _____

E-mail address or phone no. : _____

IT IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARTICIPANT to abide by Italian law regulating entry into Italy for tourism or study or other reasons, and to obtain information at the closest Italian embassy or consulate in their country of origin and to obtain any necessary visas, as well as information on required vaccinations.

THE MEETING POINT upon arrival for all participants is the train station in Arezzo on July 21, 2007 (1st group) and on August 4, 2007 (2nd group). Members of the program staff will be waiting to meet you at 1 pm and 8 pm. This schedule may be modified if deemed necessary. It is the sole responsibility of the participants to inform the Management of their estimated time of arrival at the station in Arezzo.

PLEASE BE INFORMED that copies of all enrollment forms will need to be signed (and witnessed) by participants upon arrival **BEFORE** beginning the trip from the station in Arezzo to the program site.

The campaign is divided into two sessions:

1st session: July 21-August 3, 2007

2nd session : August 4-18, 2007

Each session of the campaign can accommodate 10 participants. Participants are allowed to take part in only one segment. Applications will be accepted on the basis of education and/or experience in dig sites as well as date of receipt; if one session is complete at the time of application, participants will be immediately notified about the possibility of participating in the second session.

MANAGEMENT AND CONTACTS

The Program Director is Prof. Adriana Moroni from the University of Siena, who is assisted by a working team consisting of three members: Prof. Marco Pacciarelli from the University of Naples 'Federico II', Cristiano Iaia (assistant director, cris.iaia@tiscali.it), Rosy Gennusa (assistant director, rosyy@tiscali.it).

If you would like to have clarifications before enrolling, please, contact the assistant directors at the e-mail addresses indicated above or the "Centro Studi sul Quaternario onlus" (cesq.info@virgilio.it).

ACCOMODATION AT "AGRITURISMO IL TREBBIO" (Il Trebbio holiday farmhouse)

Participants will stay at "Agriturismo Il Trebbio" (www.iltrebbio.it) which encompasses the land on which the dig site is located. The cost of enrollment includes 15 days accommodation at "Il Trebbio" full board with a change of linens and apartment cleaning, two Sunday trips to nearby museums and archeological sites by private coach, and an afternoon course in ceramics for a total of 15 hours (Prehistoric and Proto-historic Ceramics, Manufacturing with the 'Colombino' technique: technology and typology of materials, preparation of artifacts, preparation of natural pigments, decorating and firing. A release form regarding allergies to clay and natural pigments used in the course must be signed prior to enrollment).

MORNING DIGGING ACTIVITIES

We will be digging from 7:00 am until 1:00 pm, Monday through Friday and from 7:00 am until 12:00 on Saturday. Sunday is free. If the weather is too hot, digging will be from 6:00 am until 12:00.

Digging requirements include:

- A minimum knowledge of Italian because all of the activities (digging, training, conferences, guided tours, etc.) will be held in Italian. An English interpreter will be available.
- A reasonable degree of heat tolerance. The temperature in the Valtiberina is usually between 18-35°C.
- Fill in, sign and send the application form to the fax number of +39 0575 759276 by 15 May 2007. Be sure to include all the forms (**this one, and modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6**) and your *curriculum vitae*. It is particularly important to know if the applicant has had prior digging experience or taken archaeological courses.

AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

- Laboratory work to catalogue and carry out a preliminary restoration of material found during the dig.
- Conferences on prehistoric and archaeological subjects (prehistory, protohistory, geology, anthropology, palaeontology, environment and paleoenvironment) given by University professors from various departments (at least one in English).

ENROLLMENT

The cost of participation in the Trebbio excavation is 1,600.00 euros. Included in the cost are transportation from Arezzo to Sansepolcro and return, 15 days of full board at the "Il Trebbio" holiday farmhouse, and all of the above mentioned activities that are part of the dig campaign. Not included in the cost are the entrance fees to various museums and any other expense not mentioned here.

1. By April 30th 2007 - This form must be printed out, filled in and signed in acceptance completely (together with forms n. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6). It must be mailed or faxed to the "IL TREBBIO" HOLIDAY FARMHOUSE, fax +39 0575 759276. Together with this form, there should be a deposit of 600.00 euros made out to the bank account of the "Azienda Agraria Paola Perugini", Banca Popolare dell'Etruria, sede centrale di Firenze, C/C 12416 ABI 5390 CAB 02800 CIN F23 IT - IBAN IT23F053900280000000012416, please make sure you specify the deposit pertains to the program "VAL 07"
2. By June 15th 2007 - you need to pay the remaining €1000,00 by bank transfer on the Bank Account of Azienda Agraria Paola Perugini, Banca Popolare Etruria sede centrale di Firenze, C/C 12416 ABI 5390 CAB 02800 CIN 03 IT IBAN IT23F053900280000000012416, please make sure you specify it is the payment for the program "VAL 07"

REIMBURSEMENT IN CASE OF CANCELLATION

In case of cancellation BEFORE June 15, 2007: 300,00 euros (50% of the booking fee)

In case of cancellation AFTER June 15, 2007: 800,00 euros (50% of the total cost)

By October 2007, each participant will receive at their home address a certificate detailing the activity carried out at the site.

By signing this form, I declare that I have read, understood and accept all of the conditions stipulated in the form.

Specify which excavation period you prefer (first or second and the full dates)

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Participant signature _____

Date

Printed name of participant _____

on location :

Date

Participant signature _____

Witness (Director or Assistant director) signature _____

This agreement must be completed in full (signed, dated, witnessed where indicated) before any participant may begin field school activities, including transport to the site location.