



**BOSTON COLLEGE**  
**BC BEYOND EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**

With Professor of History,  
**Robert Savage**

# PASSAGE FROM IRELAND TO ICELAND:

A Voyage Including the Scottish  
and Faroe Isles

**May 30 - June 13, 2025**



**Aboard the New Expedition Cruise Ship *DIANA***

## Dear BC Alumni and Friends,

Join us on this voyage from Dublin to Reykjavík as we 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, welcoming inhabitants. This special tour will highlight BC Beyond Educational Travel's threefold mission to provide lifelong learning through educational travel, to showcase BC faculty, and to expand the global reach of Boston College.

Our first of many encounters with the wonder of nature will be the famed Giant's Causeway on Northern Ireland's Antrim Coast, from where we head 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 Stennes compete for our attention with the seabirds— Guillemots, Kittiwakes, and White-tailed Eagles—that abound here. 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 our voyage, we reach Iceland, where we will 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. We will sail into stunning 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 here.

Complementing our trip with lectures and discussions will be Boston College's Professor of History, **Robert Savage**, along with a team of naturalists and experts familiar with these islands in the North Atlantic.

Our vessel for this extraordinary journey, the Swan Hellenic *Diana*, is a state-of-the art, new-generation expedition cruise ship, launched in early 2023. Accommodating only 192 guests in beautifully appointed staterooms and balcony suites, *Diana* features several lounges, a restaurant, outdoor café, spa, and library and is equipped with the latest safety and environmentally friendly technology.

We hope you will join us on this exploration of some of Europe's most intriguing and seldom-visited islands.

## Explore the world through BC,



Patricia Tyler, Director  
BC Beyond Educational Travel  
Boston College

Cover photo: Goðafoss waterfall, Iceland

## FACULTY

### ROBERT J. SAVAGE

Professor of History



**Professor Savage** is a member of the Boston College History Department and served as one of the directors of the university's renowned Irish Studies program for over 15 years. He has degrees from Boston College and University College, Dublin. Savage teaches courses in Modern Irish, British, and Atlantic World History and courses in media, film, and propaganda. He also collaborates with colleagues in the Departments of Fine Arts, Philosophy, and English to teach interdisciplinary courses that explore the intersection of art, memory, narrative, and history.

Savage has been awarded Visiting Professorships at Venice International University; Trinity College Dublin; Queens University, Belfast; the University of Galway; and the University of Edinburgh where he held a Leverhulme Fellowship. He is an award winning author who has published six books and numerous articles and chapters exploring contemporary Irish and British history. His most recent book, *Northern Ireland, the BBC and Censorship in Thatcher's Britain*, was published by Oxford University Press in 2022.



Atlantic puffins, Grímsey Island



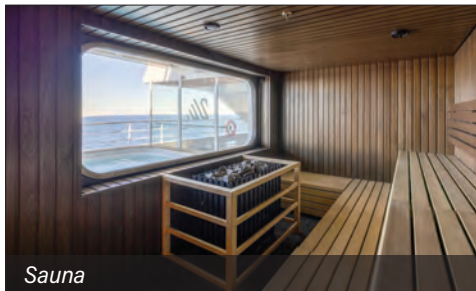
# THE NEW 192-GUEST EXPEDITION CRUISE SHIP *DIANA*



Oceanview Stateroom



Balcony Suite



Sauna



Observation Lounge



Outdoor Café/Bar with swimming pool

Built in Finland, and launched in April 2023, Swan Hellenic's *Diana* is a new generation expedition cruise ship. Although at 12,100 tons the ship is large enough to accommodate more than 350 passengers, *Diana* will accommodate a maximum of 192 guests in 96 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.

Featuring the latest advances in technology and engineering, *Diana* is among the world's first environmentally responsible ships. Equipped with hybrid engines and a unique water filtration system, *Diana* leaves a minimal footprint. For cruising in Polar regions, the ship meets the stringent requirements of the new Polar Code with its high PC5 Category A ice strengthened hull and other advanced features. A computer-controlled Dynamic Positioning System allows the ship to maintain position without anchoring. Operated by a complement of 135 experienced European officers and international crew members, *Diana* will

carry a fleet of Zodiacs, versatile landing boats, and kayaks. Powerful stabilizers provide a smooth ride.

*Diana's* interior spaces exude sophisticated elegance, with most rooms opening to panoramic views of the sea. All staterooms and suites face outside and are equipped with private facilities, climate control, TV, Wi-Fi and USB connections and other amenities. Of the ship's 96 staterooms, 76 have balconies. Public areas include a spacious observation lounge 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 with an adjoining outdoor jacuzzi; library; beauty salon; and an infirmary that is attended by a full-time doctor and nurse. The ship also features expansive open-deck areas. Two elevators connect all decks. Attentive service is provided on a 24-hour basis. The outstanding cuisine is complemented by fine wines at lunch and dinner.

# ITINERARY



Friday, May 30, 2025  
**DEPART THE UNITED STATES.**

Saturday, May 31  
**DUBLIN, Ireland**

Arrive in Dublin and transfer to *The Davenport Hotel* (or similar) for the night. Enjoy a welcome reception at Boston College Ireland, followed by dinner. (D)

Sunday, June 1  
**DUBLIN/EMBARKATION**

After breakfast at the hotel, visit the National Gallery of Ireland, one of the preeminent museums in Europe, including works by Titian, Rubens, Rembrandt, Delacroix, Caravaggio, Vermeer, Monet and



Neolithic Skara Brae, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in the Orkney Islands.

Picasso. Then visit the beautifully decorated State Apartments of Dublin Castle and its undercroft, where small boats once brought provisions via an underground river. Afterwards transfer to the pier to embark *Diana* and set sail for Northern Ireland. (B,L,D)

Monday, June 2  
**PORTRUSH**

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. Plan to spend time on deck as we cruise the stunning coastline of Rathlin. Rathlin Island offers some of the most breathtaking scenery in Northern Ireland. It is renowned for its wildlife, particularly its seabird breeding colonies, and lies a mere 6 miles off the coast of Ireland. (B,L,D)

Tuesday, June 3  
**DUNVEGAN, ISLE OF SKYE, Scotland**

Today is devoted to exploring the stark beauty of the Isle of Skye. Begin with a scenic drive across the island to Portree, a charming fishing village that happens also to be the capital of the island. Enjoy time at leisure here to browse along the colorful waterfront of shops and cafés, before returning to Dunvegan, where lunch is aboard ship. The afternoon excursion is a tour of massive Dunvegan Castle, the historic seat of Clan MacLeod set amid a 42,000-acre estate and said to be the oldest continuously inhabited castle in Scotland. (B,L,D)

Wednesday, June 4  
**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. (B,L,D)

Thursday, June 5  
**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. *Diana* will dock at the lively harbor of Lerwick, capital of the island and Britain's northernmost town. We begin a drive through Tingwall Valley to the Keolka Croft, where you will learn about the lives of farmers who till the land within the peculiarly Scottish system of small-scale tenant farming called "crofting." On our return drive to Lerwick, we will visit the Shetland Museum. (B,L,D)

Friday, June 6  
**TORSHAVN, Faroe Islands**

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 exploration includes the quaint old quarter of Tinganes,



Ísafjörður, Iceland

where small wooden houses are roofed with turf; 16th-century Fort Skansin; and the National Museum of the Faroe Islands. (B,L,D)

### Saturday, June 7 **DJÚPIVOGUR, Iceland**

Djúpivogur, in southeastern Iceland, is a small town on a peninsula near the mouth of Berufjörður fjord, with an awe-inspiring pyramid-shaped mountain as its backdrop which also serves as a gateway to Vatnajökull National Park, Europe's largest covering 14% of Iceland, including ice caps, waterfalls, glaciers, canyons, craters and volcanoes. Our first stop is in the town of Höfn at the Gamlabúð Visitor's Center to learn about the unique features of the park and view exhibits on the effects of the many glaciers that have carved out the spectacular fjords in this region of Iceland. Continue to drive through this mountainous region to reach the outlet of Heinabergsjökull Glacier and enjoy time to explore the spectacular surroundings. Afterward, drive to a local horse farm to meet the residents and breeders and learn about Icelandic horses. Brought to Iceland by the Vikings, this sturdy breed is now found nowhere else in the world. Returning to the ship, stop at Hvalnes skriðum, a dramatic black pebble beach. (B,L,D)

### Sunday, June 8 **SEYÐISFJÖRÐUR**

Seyðisfjörður is regarded by many as Iceland's most picturesque town, not only due to its impressive surroundings but also because nowhere else in Iceland has a community of old wooden buildings been preserved as well as here. Begin with an exploration of the archaeological site at Fjörður to see the remains of the pagan burial site and Viking longhouse. Enjoy an easy walk around the old town with a local guide, including a visit to the beautiful Blue Church, 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 9 **GRÍMSEY & HRÍSEY ISLANDS**

Grímsey 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. Discover the beautiful island of Hrísey with your expedition team. The island is a birdwatcher's paradise and with no natural predators, it has become a sanctuary

for forty endemic species including the largest breeding colony of Arctic Terns in Europe. (B,L,D)

### Tuesday, June 10 **HÚSAVÍK**

Arrive in the small fishing village of Húsavík whose brightly colored houses, wooden church and snow-capped peaks have earned it the reputation as the prettiest town in Iceland. Begin an excursion that will take us to some of the island's most impressive sights, including Lake Mývatn, a volcanic area of incredible geological features that includes hot springs, boiling mud pots and fumaroles; a wondrously surreal landscape of columns and arches left behind when a massive lava lake collapsed into the marshes below; and the extraordinary number of pseudo-craters in the town of Skútustaðir, where you pause for lunch. On the way back to the ship, stop at the magnificent Goðafoss waterfall ("Waterfall of the Gods"), formed by the falling waters of a river. (B,L,D)

### Wednesday, June 11 **ÍSAFJÖRÐUR**

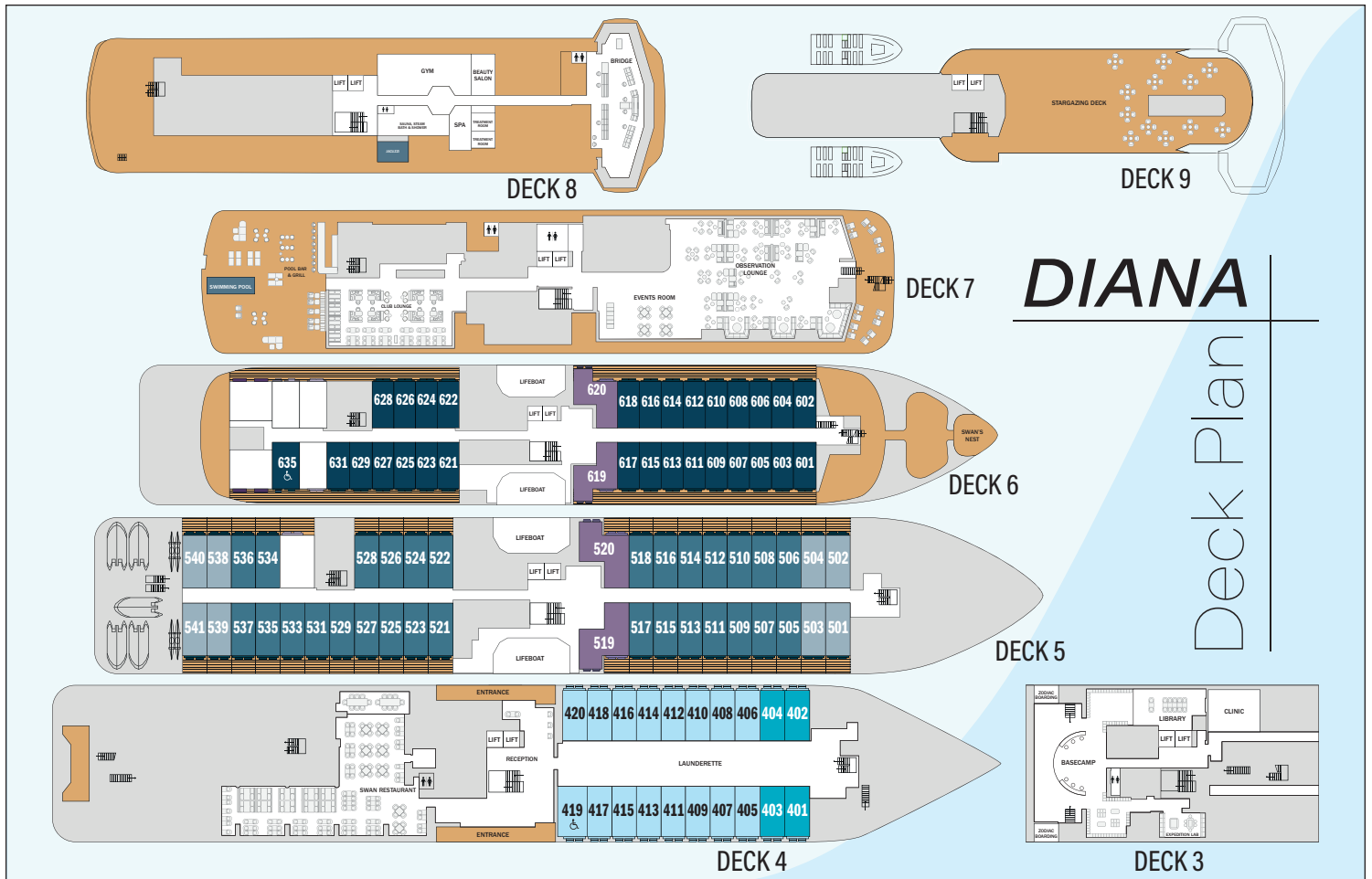
Call at the tiny fishing village of Ísafjörður, built at the foot of a high volcanic plateau, where even in the center of the town, nature predominates. Picturesque houses of contrasting colors, the oldest dating from the 17th century, fill the historic district. The Westfjords Heritage Museum, which we will visit, is housed in one of these, and tells the story of the discovery and settlement of the town. (B,L,D)

### Thursday, June 12 **DYNJANDI WATERFALL**

Our second day on Iceland's Westfjords Peninsula begins at the impressive Dynjandi ("thunderous") Waterfall, one of Iceland's most photographed sites—a 300-foot main falls that cascades into six smaller falls below. In the early evening, Diana sails along the Latrabjarg Cliffs, considered one of the most spectacular seabird cliffs in the world. Its scenic beauty is dwarfed only by the incredible number of seabirds – the largest in Europe with an estimated 150,000 breeding pairs of Razorbills, 226,000 of Guillemots, 118,000 Thick-billed Murres, 100,000 Fulmars, 50,000 Atlantic Puffins, and 32,000 Kittiwakes. (B,L,D)

### Friday, June 13 **REYKJAVÍK/DISEMBARKATION**

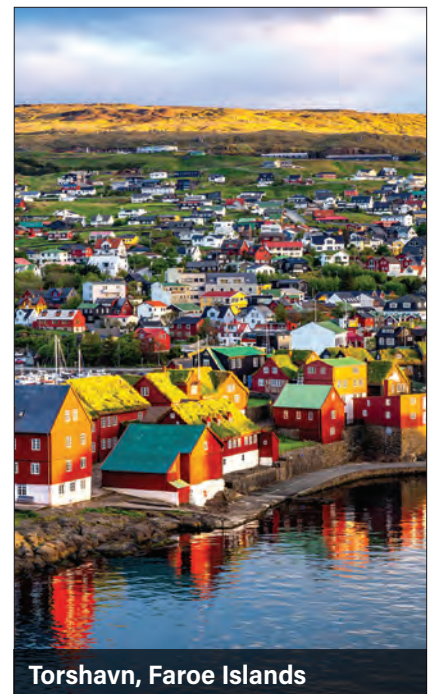
After breakfast aboard, disembark Diana. Depending on your flight home from Reykjavík, a tour of the city will be available. (B)



All accommodations aboard *Diana* 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	RATES PER PERSON / DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
<b>E</b>	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 401-404.	\$11,990
<b>D</b>	Oceanview staterooms with two large oval windows. 206 sq. ft. Deck 4. Staterooms 405-420.	\$12,840
<b>C</b>	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 501-504, 538-541.	\$15,440
<b>B</b>	Suites with balcony & living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 5. Suites 505-518, 521-529, 531-537.	\$16,340
<b>A</b>	Suites with balcony and living room area. 300 sq. ft. Deck 6. Suites 601-618, 621-635.	\$16,990
<b>AA</b>	Suites with large balcony, separate bedroom & living room. 474 sq. ft. Decks 5 & 6. Suites 519, 520, 619 & 620.	\$19,990

**FOR SOLO TRAVELERS** | Cabins for single occupancy are available at the following lower than normal supplements: For Categories E & D 20% of the per person double occupancy rate. For Categories C, B & A 50% of the per person double occupancy rate.



Torshavn, Faroe Islands

## 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 *The Davenport Hotel* (or similar) in Dublin.
- Welcome Reception at Boston College Ireland.
- Welcome dinner in Dublin, and tour of Dublin and lunch on the day of embarkation.
- Cruise aboard the Swan Hellenic *Diana*, as described in the itinerary.
- Group airport/hotel/pier transfers overseas at designated times on the indicated arrival and return dates, and handling of luggage.
- Program of lectures and presentations from experts and naturalists.
- Complete program of shore excursions, 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.



The beautiful Blue Church, Seyðisfjörður, Iceland

## REGISTRATION

BOCO 25D-0530

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**, May 30 - June 13, 2025 with Boston College. I understand that final payment is due ninety (90) days prior to departure and is payable by check or credit card.

**For reservations, please call Thalassa Journeys at: (866) 633-3611 or email: [reservations@thalassajourneys.com](mailto:reservations@thalassajourneys.com)**

or make a check payable and mail with this registration form to:

**Thalassa Journeys:** 8815 Conroy-Windermere Rd., Suite 406, Orlando, FL 32835

AmEx                       Discover                       Visa                       Master Card

No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ 3- or 4-Digit Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

### PLEASE SELECT STATEROOM CATEGORY IN ORDER OF PREFERENCE

1st choice  \_\_\_\_\_ 2nd choice  \_\_\_\_\_ 3rd choice  \_\_\_\_\_

Double Occupancy                       Single Occupancy (Inquire for rates)

### PREFERRED BED CONFIGURATION

Double  \_\_\_\_\_ Twin  \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST                      MIDDLE                      LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

FIRST                      MIDDLE                      LAST (AS ON YOUR PASSPORT)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

CITY/STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_

(CELL) \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 71-90 days prior to departure will be assessed a penalty equal to 50% of the total program cost per person. Cancellations received within 70 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 Boston College and Thalassa Journeys. Boston College and Thalassa Journeys act 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 Massachusetts, pursuant to applicable Massachusetts 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**



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**BC BEYOND EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL**

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# Join **Robert J. Savage**, Professor of History, on **PASSAGE FROM IRELAND TO ICELAND**

For Reservations and Information, Please Call **866-633-3611**  
or email: [reservations@thalassajourneys.com](mailto:reservations@thalassajourneys.com)



Colorful Portree, Isle of Skye, Scotland