

## TRAVEL

# Turkish ports are cruise highlights

First of a two-part series  
BY JUDITH DONER BERNE  
SPECIAL WRITER

Dozens of Greek islands, like a series of skipping stones, dot the Aegean Sea between Istanbul and Athens.

Our cruise, that left from Istanbul, stopped at five of them, as well as two ancient cities along Turkey's Aegean coast. Because it was just a month after 9/11, we were among very few tourists in that part of the world.

Our ship, the Radiance Diamond, normally carries 320 passengers. Just 85 of us showed up, along with the crew of more than 200. They made us feel special for coming and gave us a great trip.

Most people identify a cruise of the Aegean with the Greek islands. But the two Turkish ports we visited, plus the Greek island of Rhodes, were the highlights for me.

The ancient Hellenic ruins of Pergamum are reached via the port of Dikili, Turkey. High above the newer city rises the white marble remains of the old, that was a site of power and glory

when the Romans ruled from the 2nd century BC to the 2nd century AD.

An amphitheater built into the hillside and remnants of a library are visible signs of a highly cultured society. Parchment paper was invented here, according to our guide, leading to the "invention" of the first "pages" on which you could write back and forth. At its height, the library contained 200,000 volumes.

We see parts of a lot of buildings, but just the site of the Altar of Zeus. It was sold off to the Germans, who carted it away piece by piece. We know it got where it was going — the Pergamum Museum in Berlin that was built especially for it — because we saw it there on a trip to Germany a couple of months back.

Equally as interesting is Asklepieion, a sanctuary and healing center named for Asklepios, the God of Healing. We see the ruins of the former hospital where first physically and later mentally ill patients were treated with music, cold water baths, and the power of suggestion.

We are blown away by the amphitheater there where doctors from other parts of that world reportedly gathered for medical demonstrations. Our guide suggests that was how the term "operating theater" came about.

## Kusadasi

Next up, Kusadasi, where the ruins of Ephesus, founded in 11 BC, is all we expect and more. So far only 10 percent of what probably was once a city of 450,000 has been excavated. It encompasses two theaters — one held 25,000 people — and a stadium for chariot racing that held 70,000.

Walking along its pillared marble streets, it's easy to trip on the grooves made by chariot wheels. The Library of Celsus, a well preserved mosaic floor, and the amazing facade of the Temple of Hadrian are highlights for me.

It's taken more than a century for just this little bit of Ephesus to be uncovered. With Turkey's serious economic problems it will probably take at least another century to unveil it all.

Back in the bustling city of Kusadasi, Turkish food shows the influence of the nearby Greece. A base of the vegetable soup I order is more like the lemon-rice soup

we get at metro-Detroit's Greek restaurants.

This is our last stop in Turkey (stay tuned for a travel story on Istanbul and the Cappadocia region) and I haven't found the colorful cotton place mats I have in mind. In the Kusadasi bazaar, I spy some rectangular cushion covers that I mistake for place mats. The shop owner says he will take them to the tailor, who will re-fashion them for me.

While I wait, I have an interesting discussion with a nearby carpet store owner, who spent five months in the U.S. last winter, including Detroit. I accept his hospitality — and the ever present glass of apple tea — once I'm satisfied that he understands I'm not in buying a rug.

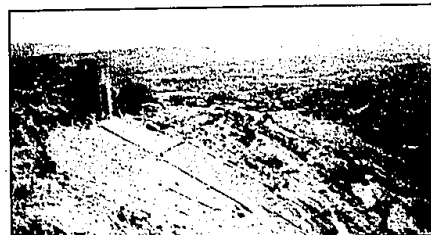
"Bin Laden," he said, as I had heard from many Turks, "doesn't represent the Muslims. Terrorism is completely against everything we believe."

Next week: Sailing on to the Greek Isles.

Judith Doner Berne, of West Bloomfield, is a former managing editor of The Eccentric Newspapers and a current op ed columnist. Your comments and questions are welcome by calling (734) 953-2047 or e-mailing jberne@att.net.



Sightseeing: Inside the Library of Celsus you can still see rolls of papyrus at one of the most impressive ruins at Ephesus.



Theater: This theater, built into the hillside, seated some 10,000 spectators and reportedly retains its amazing acoustics.

**PRIME RIB DINNER**  
**\$15.95**  
Vegetables and Hot Sauce

**JOIN US ON**  
**Valentine's Day**  
**FEBRUARY 14TH**  
**Dancing & Entertainment**  
**Featuring DJ Dave & Larry**  
**Make Your Reservations Now!**

**OPEN DAILY**  
**MON-SAT**  
**AT 11:00 AM**

**COCKTAIL**  
**MON-FRI**  
**4-7 PM DAILY**  
**\$6.95**

**WEEKEND**  
**DINNERS**  
**3-4pm from**  
**\$12.95**

**MONDAYS**  
**Larry Nozero**

**TUESDAYS**  
**DJ Dave**

**28500 Schoolcraft**  
**LIVONIA**  
**(734) 425-5520**  
**AMPLE LIGHTED PARKING**

## WIN FREE TICKETS!

**Meadow Brook Theatre**  
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S PROFESSIONAL THEATRE COMPANY

### Bee-luther-hatchee

Who Owns the Story of Your Life?

**FEB 13 - MAR 10**

By Thomas Gibbons

A young editor bursts into the limelight with her book, "Bee-luther-hatchee," the evocative memoirs of an elderly African-American woman. The truth — behind the memoirs, and behind the reclusive author — is revealed as the puzzle unravels. The Chicago Tribune raved about MBT Interim Artistic Director Debra Wicks' production for the Northlight Theatre: "Virtually flawless, unerring in physical detail and emotional truth."

**MBT RATING: ADULT LANGUAGE AND SITUATIONS.**

**Tickets start at just \$17!**

**MBT BOX OFFICE:**

**(248) 377-3300**

**GROUP DISCOUNTS: (248) 370-3316**

**www.mbttheatre.com**

Made possible by:

Observer & Eccentric

COUPLES NIGHT! Buy one ticket, get one and half price! \*Wed. Thurs. & Sun. only.

## Win Tickets to SEE MBT's — Bee-luther-hatchee!

See today's O&E classified ads — Section 713, Moving Sales — for the winning answer! Send postcard with the correct answer, your name, address & daytime phone to: BEE-LUTHER-HATCHEE, Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University, Rochester, MI 48309. Five winners will be randomly selected from entries with correct answers received by Wednesday, Feb. 27th.

BROTHER RICE high school  
Bloomfield Hills

# Bella Notte

March 15 & 16 2002

auction xxv

For just **\$100** you could be the big winner!

... of a silver 2002 Mercury Cougar Sport!

2nd Prize: \$1,000 (cash) 3rd Prize: \$500 (cash)

Here's a taste of the over-600 items up for bid:

- Trips to the Mexican Riviera, Ireland, Hawaii, Spain & other exciting locations
- Opportunity to take a ride on the Red Wings' Zamboni
- Fine Jewelry, Waterford, original artwork

We accept Visa & Mastercard!  
Call **(248) 647-7423**

or simply send a check with your registration from below.

All proceeds to benefit Brother Rice High School • 7101 Lahser Road • Bloomfield Hills, MI. A special thanks to The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, our official print sponsor.

**2002 Mercury Cougar Sport Raffle Ticket Registration**

Please send check or money order c/o: Auction Office • Brother Rice High School  
7101 Lahser Road • Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Tickets @ \$100.00 each Total Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Official Print Sponsor: Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Say Goodbye To Banking Hours... and Hello To People Hours...

# Flagstar gives you the freedom...

We're Open From  
**7:30 A.M.**  
until  
**7:30 P.M.\***

Our In-store Locations Are  
Open 7 Days A Week!

## FLAGSTAR® BANK

Now That's Convenience You Can Count On...

Call For Hours And A Banking Center  
Near You:  
**800-642-0039**

MEMBER FDIC

[www.flagstar.com](http://www.flagstar.com)

\*Hours listed above apply to most of our banking centers. Times may vary at some locations.

Welcome To The Observer & Eccentric Flower Directory

When LOVE Is In The Air....  
Nothing Says It Better Than **FLOWERS!**

www.800wesleys.com

## Roses \$29.99<sup>99</sup> DZ

### Wesley Berry Flowers

WE DELIVER across the street or across the nation!

**1-800-WESLEYS**

6677 Orchard Lake Road  
Just South of Apple in West Bloomfield

\* CASH & CARRY PRICE  
BOX & DELIVERY EXTRA

**Livonia Florist**  
Mari-Fine Plaza  
Mon.-Sat. 9-7pm Sun. & Holidays 10-3pm  
**734-422-1313**  
Major Credit Cards Accepted

---

**Floyd's Flowers, Inc.**  
25096 S. Mile Rd.  
Mon.-Sat. 8am-7:30pm Sunday 8am-3pm  
**313-535-4934**

---

**Beautiful floral gifts for your special Valentine.**

(734) 421-3567  
32109 Plymouth Rd.  
Livonia

\* Pick Up  
\* Home of the 24 HOUR FLOWER VIDEO

To Place an Ad in this Directory for the Next Holiday, Please call:  
**LIZ at 734-953-2081**