THE ALBERESE ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT

Established in 2009 the research project is shaping a new understanding of Roman settlement trends and international exchange networks between the mid-Republican period and late Antiquity.

Current research focuses on two outstanding sites: the excavation of a newly identified Roman rural villa and workshop site, and the investigation of part of the forum of the Etruscan-Roman city of Rusellae.

Other ongoing studies include excavations of a manufacturing district producing objects in glass, bone and metal, and of a sanctuary dedicated to Diana situated as a ‘marker’ for Mediterranean trade, as well as landscape and infrastructure studies centred around the via Aurelia vetus.

The project provides important new evidence for Roman Italy. Current research themes: the ‘Romanization’ of Etruria; the relationship between cities and rural settlements; local economy and international exchange; manufacturing processes and infrastructure organization.

The field school is an integral part of the research excavations, and the participants contribute actively to this through their work.

ALBERESE ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD SCHOOL

“Your ideal setting for a formative and amazing experience”

Courses are aimed at students, early career scholars and those passionate about archaeology, classics, art history, anthropology, museology and cultural heritage management. No prior experience is required. To ensure an exceptional learning experience the number of participants is limited.

CONTACT DETAILS

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The excavations are carried out by the University of Sheffield and the Alberese Archaeological Project, in collaboration with John Cabot University and the Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici della Toscana.

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www.johncabot.edu/alberese
MAPPING THE ANCIENT CITY OF RUSELLAE
June 8-July 3, 2015

The investigations chart the character and development of the famous Etruscan-Roman city of Ruseellae. The field school will focus on an area vital for the public and economic life of the city: the Roman forum, and an intriguing complex of shops and workshops.

The extraordinary history of the city will be charted through the most modern recording methods. Training in GIS, photogrammetry and architectural survey techniques, as well as photography and planning of structures will construct a vertical archaeological record of this rich site.

Exceptionally, study of human osteological material from the nearby Roman cemetery will be part of the course.

EXCAVATING A ROMAN RURAL VILLA
July 20-August 21, 2015

The excavations concern a newly identified Roman villa and productive site. The site provided an important commercial focus for the city of Ruseellae and for the area around the Via Aurelia vetus that linked the area with Rome.

The site is exceptionally rich and well preserved. Evidence of mosaic pavements indicates that it had a residential character. It also produced metal objects and – highly unusual – Egyptian blue pigment.

Training in stratigraphic excavation methods is the primary component of the course. Subjects include excavation methods and their application, analysis of built structures and archaeological features, context analysis, and introduction to surveying, environmental studies and landscape archaeology.

PRACTICAL DETAILS

The field schools are set in breath-taking archaeological and natural landscapes: within the archaeological site of ancient Ruseellae and the Maremma Natural Park. They are situated c. 10 km from the modern city of Grosseto in Tuscany, Italy.

Courses are taught as practical on-site work combined with seminars led by specialists. They are offered as for-credit and as certificate of participation.

The location offers a host of opportunities for independent weekend activities: explore the natural park, relax on the nearby beach, or visit fascinating cities, like Rome, Pisa, Siena and Florence.

The Alberese Archaeological Field School is an outstanding opportunity for a practical, hands-on experience of the methods and techniques of modern archaeology.