

Western Caribbean • December 4 – 11, 2011

History Calls™



www.InSightCruises.com/History



CARIBBEAN HISTORY

The Spanish American War: the Road to Empire

Speaker: Richard Stewart, Ph.D.

The United States went to war with Spain in 1898 after the battleship *Maine* exploded in Havana harbor. In short order, the United States found itself with an empire and serious long term consequences. How did this happen? Why did the U.S. go to war? How did it win and why did Spain lose so quickly? Richard Stewart has the story.

Drake and the Sea Dogs: England and Spain on the Way to the Armadas

Speaker: Richard Stewart, Ph.D.

In the Caribbean and far beyond, Sir Francis Drake fought for booty, for England, but mostly for Sir Francis Drake. He and the other "sea dogs" fought against the most powerful empire on earth, England, leading to a decades-long war and a series of naval armadas and counter-armadas that changed the face of European politics forever. Gain a perspective on piracy's impacts.

Cruise prices start at \$649, per person, for an Interior Stateroom. For those attending our seminars, there is a \$1,425 fee. Taxes and fees are \$174 per person. Onboard gratuities are \$11 per day per person.
For more info contact Neil at 650-787-5665 or neil@InSightCruises.com

THE HISTORY OF THE AUTOMOBILE

An Introduction to the Automobile and American Life

Speaker: John Heitmann, Ph.D.

In an introductory lecture, we'll explore the transformative role of the automobile in American life. Open a window on the auto's effect on business; life on the farm and in the city; and the nature and organization of work, leisure time, and the arts. Visit with John Heitmann and evaluate the automobile as a symbol of American culture's restless mobility and the quest to level space, time, and class.

The Golden Age of the Automobile in America: the 1950s and 1960s

Speaker: John Heitmann, Ph.D.

The 1950s were a special time for the automobile in America. The complex interaction between human beings and the car was reflected in contemporary literature, music, and film. Was this really a golden age? Despite the uncertainty and anxiety of the period, for many it was an era of smooth rides and good times. Take a critical look at the role of the automobile in the '50s and '60s.

Glory Road: Automobile Racing in America, from Chicago in 1895 to NASCAR Nation

Speaker: John Heitmann, Ph.D.

From a means of testing emerging technology to a reflection of national pride, auto racing is a professional sport, big business, and a community. Have serious fun with Dr. Heitmann, asking the big questions: What shaped the nature of racing? How has racing contributed to your vehicle's technology? What creates a racing fan? Find the answers to these and many more questions in a scholarly trip around the track.

Crash Course: The Tortuous Decline of the American Automobile Industry, 1958–2011

Speaker: John Heitmann, Ph.D.

In 1955, at the height of America's love affair with the automobile, few would have foreseen the cataclysmic changes ahead in the automotive industry. Examine the big picture, exploring factors and events that contributed to the decline, and the implications for the American economy and society in the years ahead.

CST# 2065380-40



WORLD WAR II

Five Uneasy Pieces: Key Decisions that Changed World War II

Speaker: Richard Stewart, Ph.D.

History is not an inexorable path to one specific result or end. The choices made by the leaders of the Axis and the Allies led to specific actions that led to further choices, none of them inevitable. To understand these decision points is to understand the leaders and events of the time and to understand why World War II turned out the way it did. Scrutinize key decisions of WWII with Richard Stewart, and reflect on how history often rests on a knife's edge.

Franklin D. Roosevelt, the Jews, and the Holocaust

Speaker: Allan Lichtman, Ph.D.

Few topics in American history are more controversial than President Franklin D. Roosevelt's response to Hitler's persecution and then systematic extermination of the Jews of Europe. Among scholars, Roosevelt has both passionate critics and equally ardent defenders. Dr. Lichtman will present a new and comprehensive interpretation of Roosevelt and the Holocaust, based upon research for his forthcoming book on the topic.

VIETNAM

Lyndon Johnson and the Vietnam War

Speaker: Allan Lichtman, Ph.D.

Few events in modern history changed America and the world as profoundly as the Vietnam War. Drawing on unpublished sources, Dr. Lichtman will explain how and why President Lyndon B. Johnson launched and continued the war. Learn the source of Johnson's credibility gap, the war's impact on the Democratic Party and Johnson's presidency, and the genesis of Republican Richard Nixon's election in 1968.

The U.S. in Vietnam, 1945-1964: the Making of a Quagmire

Speaker: Richard Stewart, Ph.D.

Knowledge of America's 20-year involvement in Vietnamese affairs prior to major military operations is key to understanding the war. The U.S. aided French attempts to save South Vietnam from Communism and to build a new Vietnamese state without military action. How and why did the United States go from peaceful relations to full blown war? Dr. Stewart maps the path.

POLITICAL HISTORY

Who Will be the Next American President? A Historical Analysis

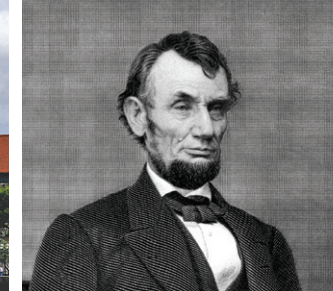
Speaker: Allan Lichtman, Ph.D.

Long before the polls or any other forecasting system can provide accurate predictions, Dr. Lichtman's unique historically based prediction system, "The Keys to the White House," will have produced a relatively secure forecast for the winner of the 2012 presidential election. Audience participation and The Keys will generate a prediction during this lecture. Get the inside track on 2012!

The Rise of the Modern American Conservative Movement

Speaker: Allan Lichtman, Ph.D.

Take an in-depth look at modern conservatism's life, history, and logic. From Warren Harding to the Tea Party movement, Dr. Lichtman traces the history of conservatism and assesses the future of the movement. You'll see the historic pattern of conservative politics, and identify the roles that the liberal state and changes of the urban, industrial order play in it.



CIVIL WAR & CIVIL WAR TIMES

The Inner World of Abraham Lincoln

Speaker: Michael Burlingame, Ph.D.

A unified look at Lincoln's human and political evolution gives you a richer context for understanding the historical figure. We'll study the influences on Abraham Lincoln's personal life, especially those of his parents, children, and wife. We'll also examine how Lincoln grew from a rather narrow political partisan in his early career to become a true statesman.

Lincoln's Wartime Leadership

Speaker: Michael Burlingame, Ph.D.

Lincoln's humor, compassion, mercy, and tender-heartedness are well known. Less understood are his grasp of military strategy and his steely determination to defeat the Confederacy and not only free the slaves and preserve the Union, but also to vindicate democracy. Join Dr. Burlingame and get a sense of the skills and attitudes Lincoln brought to bear on the conflict.

Lincoln and the Coming of the Civil War

Speaker: Michael Burlingame, Ph.D.

Delve in to the elements leading to the Civil War. Dr. Burlingame lays out the causes of the war and the ways in which Lincoln and his party contributed to the outbreak of the war. We'll pay special attention to Lincoln himself and race and racism.

Lincoln as an Inspirational Figure

Speaker: Michael Burlingame, Ph.D.

Lincoln's historical role as a successful wartime president commands respect, but what else makes him so compelling a figure in the imagination of so many people? Michael Burlingame explores the role that Lincoln's personal triumph over adversity and his remarkable psychological wholeness play in his stature.

Fredericksburg: Battlefield and Beyond

Speaker: George Rable, Ph.D.

A Confederate victory but a Union story, the significance of Fredericksburg extended far beyond the battlefield. Dr. Rable considers multiple facets: strategic and tactical issues, treatment of the wounded and coming to grips with large scale carnage, and how news of the battle was conveyed. Add to your view of Fredericksburg through unexpected and surprising aspects of the battle.

Stonewall Jackson: The Christian Soldier in Life and Death

Speaker: George Rable, Ph.D.

Known in the Confederacy and the Northern states as a deeply religious military leader, Stonewall Jackson's faith had significance for himself, his soldiers, and for the Confederacy. Consider the religious interpretations of Jackson's death and how Jackson's example ironically prepared the way for acceptance of Confederate defeat.

God as General: Was There a Religious History of the American Civil War?

Speaker: George Rable, Ph.D.

Until recently, historians didn't focus on religious interpretations of the causes, course, and consequences of the American Civil War. Themes of providence, sin, and judgment helped explain the war's events, including battles, emancipation, and even the death of Abraham Lincoln. Take a look at the religious framework that helped ministers, churches, and countless soldiers and civilians comprehend the Civil War.

Did the Civil War Create a New Southern Woman?

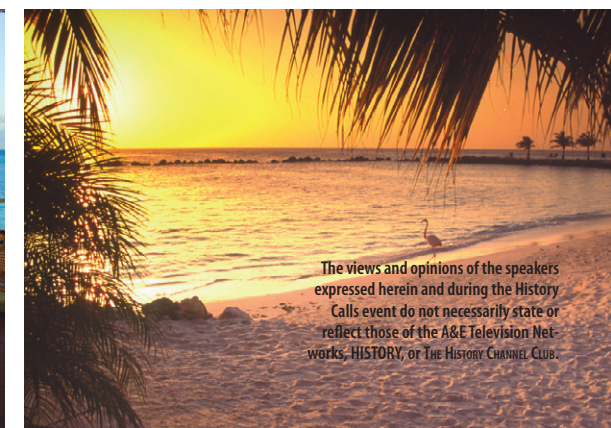
Speaker: George Rable, Ph.D.

From Southern belles to steel magnolias, the image of the Southern women at war has been a powerful one in American culture. Dr. Rable will discuss how a variety of flesh-and-blood women struggled with new and challenging roles, dealt with staggering losses and hardships, and both served and undermined the Confederate cause. Take home a nuanced view of complexities in a society at war.



MAYAN RUINS

Kohunlich is a gem on the road less traveled. Draped in rainforest vegetation, silent and majestic, its pyramids, citadels, ball court, and plazas inexorably lead you to the Temple of the Masks. Eight-foot high staring stucco masks adorn the temple. Neon-blue morpheus butterflies swirl amidst the many unexcavated ruins. Two hours by air conditioned motorcoach from Costa Maya, Kohunlich both is raw and elemental and demonstrates the sophistication of Maya cities. You owe it to yourself to explore Kohunlich, a lightly visited and nonetheless stunning Maya site.



The views and opinions of the speakers expressed herein and during the History Calls event do not necessarily state or reflect those of the A&E Television Networks, HISTORY, or THE HISTORY CHANNEL CLUB.