

2014 Excavations at Cetamura del Chianti  
Gaiole in Chianti (Siena) Italy  
Syracuse University

May 20 - June 19, 2014

INFORMATION

Cetamura del Chianti is an ancient hilltop site settled by Etruscans and Romans, located in the heart of the Chianti district of Tuscany, near Gaiole, Radda and Castellina in Chianti (Province of Siena).



Recent results at Cetamura have indicated multiple phases of Etruscan settlement --Archaic, "Classical", and at least two phases in the Hellenistic period. There is a hiatus in occupation during the fifth century and much of the fourth century B.C.E. From the Hellenistic period comes extensive evidence of an Etruscan artisans' area, featuring a kiln and cisterns, adjoining a sanctuary with surviving monumental stone foundations, multiple altars and votive deposits. Roman baths of the early Roman Empire have been unearthed, as well as a medieval castrum, or fortified village at the site in the twelfth century.

Documents of the abbey of Badia a Coltibuono, upon the property of which the site is located, refer to the medieval settlement by the name of Civitamura.





View of the Sanctuary area



Requirements: Daily journal logs, laboratory projects, and assigned reading material. The program welcomes students from all disciplines and may be of particular interest to students of Classics, Anthropology, Archaeology, Art History, Computer Science, History, and Fine Arts.



The work week runs from Monday through Friday and all participants are expected to be back at the dig house hotel on Sunday evening. During the week, the team will be divided into groups according to the daily and/or weekly needs of the excavation. The workday will begin at 8:00 am and continues until 5:00 pm with a break for lunch. There will be some afternoons that will accommodate processing of archaeological material (sorting, cleaning and labeling finds from the field) which will take place at the dig workroom. Groups will rotate depending on the amount of material that needs to be processed each day and depending on the number of participants in the field.

#### Weekends:

From late Friday afternoon until Sunday night, students and volunteers are free to travel or to remain at the dig house. There will be at least one optional field trip for students to local archaeological sites and museums.



## Accommodations:

Living quarters will be at a spacious six bedroom house just outside of the village of Radda in Chianti (SI) with access to a nearby swimming pool. Breakfast, a picnic lunch at the site, and a hot dinner will be provided with the exception of days off. Students will receive pillows and sheets, and towels will be changed once a week. The town provides basic services in banking, post office, Internet, laundry, groceries, and pharmacy. There is a public bus service to both Siena and Florence. Public telephones are readily available for calling home and you can purchase disposable cards to use these.

## Total Costs:

Participation fee (includes room and board):	\$3,600.00 (Due April 15, 2014)
Personal:	\$1000-1500 (Depends on week-end travel)

## Financial details:

The easiest way to get money in Italy is to use your ATM card. Check with your bank to see which systems they belong to and/or what banking institutions to use while there. The exchange rate now is about 1 Euro= \$1.35.

## Background reading:

Published material on the site of Cetamura can be found in English and include Cetamura Antica: Traditions of Chianti (2000) and The Sanctuary of the Etruscan Artisans at Cetamura del Chianti (2009) both by FSU professor and site director of Cetamura, Nancy T. de Grummond. For general reading on the Etruscans and Romans, see S. Haynes Etruscan Civilization: A Cultural History (Los Angeles 2000) and A. Ramage and N. Ramage *Roman Art* 4th ed. (Prentice Hall 2004).

There will be a small library of these titles and others available so that you will not have to bring your own copies unless you wish. For general guides to Italy, we recommend the Lonely Plant: Italy, The Rough Guide and Let's Go: Italy.

## What to Bring:

The weather in May and June can be warm. Sunburn and dehydration can be potential problems. Prepare yourself by bringing appropriate clothes and sunblock. And:

- a comfortable hat (one you won't remove after a few minutes)
- sunglasses
- loose, long-sleeved light cotton shirt (polyester or synthetic materials are regrettable choices)
- old t-shirts (ones that you won't mind throwing away at the end of your stay)
- shorts
- strong sunscreen, sunblock, lip protection
- sturdy shoes and socks; avoid shoes with a heavy tread—they tear up delicate archaeological stratigraphy underfoot. Sandals are not desirable when working with tools
- swim suit (house has access to a pool)
- a towel
- weekend clothes
- water bottle
- earplugs, unless you can sleep through anything
- cameras etc.
- toiletries

**\*IMPORTANT:** bring an adequate supply of all medications needed. If you run out of a prescription, you will have to visit a doctor which may be quite costly. We strongly recommend that you have a tetanus shot or booster if yours is out of date.

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