



PRESS RELEASE

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PHOENICIA ARRIVES AT OCEAN VILLAGE MARINA, GIBRALTAR

After 27 days at sea on the passage from Azores to Gibraltar Phoenicia is has arrived in the safe waters of Ocean Village marina. The 21 metre vessel, a traditionally built replica of a 600BC Phoenician cargo ship, is currently recreating the epic first circumnavigation of Africa believed to have been achieved some 2,600 years ago.

Expedition Leader Philip Beale, alongside an international crew of ten, arrived at Ocean Village Marina on Sunday 29th August 2010. The leg from the Azores has been a challenging route for Phoenicia with stormy conditions, unfavourable winds and busy shipping lanes enroute the passage to the Straits of Gibraltar. Phoenicia will stay in port until the end of this week before setting off on the next stage of the expedition towards Carthage, Malta, the Lebanon and Syria.

In Gibraltar the Phoenicia team will be busy as they re-stock supplies, welcome 3 new crew members onboard, take part in local press interviews and carry out a film shoot with a BBC film crew from the UK. Phoenicia is due to feature in forthcoming documentary series "Ancient Worlds" which will be broadcast on BBC2 in autumn 2010.

Phoenicia prepares to cross the Mediterranean before returning to her homeland in Syria once more to celebrate the recreation of this epic circumnavigation. At the end of the circumnavigation Phoenicia will have clocked up **some 17,000** miles.

- For more information on Phoenicia including a live satellite tracking device visit www.phoenicia.org.uk
- For more information on the facilities at Ocean Village marina visit www.oceanvillage.gi
- For more information on the BBC 2 series "Ancient Worlds" visit http://www.bbc.co.uk/pressoffice/pressreleases/stories/2010/07_july/14/authoritativehistory.shtml
- Expedition Leader Philip Beale is Managing Director of adventure tour operator Pioneer Expeditions visit www.pioneerexpeditions.com

PHOENICIA

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Photographs

Photograph attached. Please credit Photographer: Leon Harmse.
High resolution photographs are available to download from an exclusive press page on the Phoenicia website. Please visit <http://www.phoenicia.org.uk/pressphotos.htm>.

Facts for Press

- 1). Phoenicia, the Phoenician Ship Expedition, aims to re-create the first circumnavigation of Africa, believed to have been achieved by Phoenician mariners in 600 BC.
- 2). The Phoenician Ship Expedition is being led by British adventurer Philip Beale, whose most recent venture was to lead the 2003-04 Borobudur Ship Expedition (www.borobudurshipexpedition.com).
- 3). The Phoenicians were arguably the first 'global' civilisation. From around 1200 BC they established a civilisation on the coast of Syria, Lebanon and Palestine which spread throughout the Mediterranean and lasted nearly one thousand years.
- 4). The vessel is a replica Phoenician ship which was built using traditional Phoenician construction methods and materials. The ships design specification has been created using evidence from relevant shipwrecks and archaeological finds of artefacts such as vases and coins, as well as advice from eminent scholars and shipwrights.
- 5). The 21m long replica Phoenician ship was built in Arwad Island, an ancient Phoenician city state just off the Syrian coast, by Syrian shipwright Khalid Hammoud.

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- 6). There will be a multi-national crew of up to 16 people on any one leg of the expedition.
- 7). The next stage of the voyage will depart from Gibraltar in approximately 5 days time to cross the Mediterranean to reach Syria at the end of October 2010.
- 8). Phoenicia is approved by the Royal Geographical Society and full details of the expedition's sponsors can be viewed online: <http://www.phoenicia.org.uk/supporting-our-sponsors.htm>.

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