

'The Muddy Archaeologist'

Gillian Hovell BA(Hons) Ancient & Classical Historian, Prehistorian, Archaeologist, Author



Animal Ancestors The Ancient World's View of our Natural World

Lectures - Tour & Cruise Enhancement - Study Days - Media - Events - Courses

Digging deep into ancient myths and history to add Colour, Depth and Meaning to our Natural World today

Lively, engaging and professional

All talks are fully and richly illustrated with high quality digital images.

Sample Lectures (others available)

What's in a Name? Latin tags deciphered

The Puma has over 40 vernacular names but just one Latin name. Explore the richness of the Latin names of animals, birds, insects, fish, and more ... every species has been tagged but we explore how these Latin names are full of myths and incredible tales as well as clues to their habitats, appearance and special unique features. Let the Muddy Archaeologist unravel the hidden enlightening, funny and surprising tales, and let this Latin expert share the tricks of the trade in discovering them for yourselves.

Life on Earth: Fantastic Fables

As the Greeks and Romans encountered our astonishing world of creatures, they told stories about their creation.

This is the Classical equivalent to Kipling's Just So stories – how the first kingfishers were once a pair of lovers; why the crow is black; the tragedy of the deer who was once a hunter ...

This richly illustrated talk shares astonishing 2,000 year old frescoes and mosaics which depict a culture that was deeply rooted in the natural world and surrounded by stories. The Romans wrote extensively and we discover the natural world in their very own practical and storytelling words.

A special version of this talk enhances your cruise or tour: discover the ancient stories about the wildlife in your holiday destination – how they had been transformed into their present species, what the ancients believed their special powers were, and how the ancients viewed and used the local species.

The Natural World: Ancient Attitudes

Virtually all creatures were used for food and drink, medicine, religion, and public status by the Ancient Greeks and Romans. They also used them for personal adornment and scent. See the natural world as the ancients did; full of stories and practical uses. Travel in your mind to the Greek farms of 3,000 years ago, and to the Roman Empire who saw the whole world as a land of both wonder and resources.

Special Versions available for the species you will encounter in the destinations on your tour or cruise

Study Days

Combine the ancient stories about the ancients' view of animals of our world with talks about the ancient roots of gardening and our plants for a thrilling fresh look at our natural world.

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Looking forward to hearing from you www.muddyarchaeologist.co.uk





