

**USI WEEKEND TOUR TO VIEW  
ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS  
IN MEMPHIS**



**NEWS RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Kathy W. Funke  
News and Information Services  
812/465-7050

For Immediate Release  
June 2, 1992

The University of Southern Indiana Office of Continuing Education is sponsoring a sequel in late July -- a weekend trip to Memphis to see "The Etruscans: Legacy of a Lost Civilization" and "The Splendor of the Ottoman Sultans," two world-class exhibits that are a suitable follow to last year's "Catherine the Great."

The Etruscan exhibit, drawn from Vatican museums, explores the daily lives, customs, and historic contributions of a vibrant culture which dominated the Italian peninsula before the Romans. More than 180 artifacts portray a culture where women were treated as equals, life was to be enjoyed, and death was not a thing to fear.

The majesty of the Ottoman sultans and Turkish court life is recreated through 270 objects from the Topkapi Museum and other Ottoman collections. Elaborate decorations, opulent art, and jeweled treasures -- including the Topkapi Dagger -- reflect the pride of a dynasty that ruled from the 13th century to modern times.

John Streetman, director of the Evansville Museum of Arts and Science, will provide background information for the group, which will stay at the Peabody Hotel, home of the world-famous marching ducks and internationally renowned restaurants. The Peabody is near Beale Street's blues clubs and restaurants; Festival Island and the Great American Pyramid are easily accessible. A Friday dinner cruise is an option for those with a taste for prime rib and live music on the Mississippi.

The \$255 registration fee includes transportation; lunch on Friday at Lambert's in Sikeston, Missouri, and Sunday at the Memphis Convention Center; two nights' lodging; and admission to both tours and to the Dixon Gallery and Gardens. The Friday dinner cruise is \$25 extra. Call the USI Office of Continuing Education, 812/464-1989 or 800/467-8600, for reservations or information; the reservation deadline is July 13.

- 30 -