

CFP: Travellers in Ottoman Lands: The Botanical Legacy (Edinburgh, 13-14 May 2017)

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Travellers in Ottoman Lands: The Botanical Legacy

A two-day seminar is to be held at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh on

Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th May 2017

This is a formal Call for Papers for a two-day event of the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East (ASTENE) in conjunction the Centre for Middle Eastern Plants, part of the RBGE. Presentations should be rigorous and accessible. They should take around thirty minutes, with ample time allowed for discussion and debate. The event will be recorded and the plan is to publish final versions of the papers.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is 15 January 2017

Please e-mail your offers of papers to ottomanlandsastene@gmail.com together with a working title, a brief abstract of not more than 250 words, and the names of authors and their affiliations.

We also welcome the offer of pre-organised panels of up to four speakers on specific themes.

Participants will be informed about the acceptance of their paper by 15 February 2017.

Seminar Bursaries are also offered to attend (these bursaries do not cover travel or accommodation): please contact treasurerastene@gmail.com for further information.

Contributions to the Seminar are welcome from a wide range of disciplines and interests. It is envisaged that the Seminar will cover many fascinating subjects on (though not restricted to) the following main themes:

- Travellers' accounts related to the botanical legacy of any part of the former Ottoman Empire (e.g. present-day Turkey, the Levant, Egypt, the Balkans, Arabian Peninsula etc.)
- The flora of the region, including their heritage, preservation and medicinal uses
- Bulbs of the region, especially tulips, and their cultural significance; Tulipomania
- Ottoman garden design and architecture
- Floral and related motifs in Ottoman art, including textiles, ceramics etc.
- Culinary aspects of the botanical legacy of the region

— Literary, pictorial and photographic depictions of any aspect of the botanical and horticultural legacy of the region

— Orientalism as applicable to any of the seminar's main themes.

The Seminar Booking Form and the Draft Seminar Programme will be available on Eventbrite in early January 2017 with the deadline for bookings being 15 April 2017. Tickets will also be available at the event. All Welcome!

In the meantime, any enquiries should be addressed to ottomanlandsastene@gmail.com

Sponsored by: The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh; The Centre for Middle Eastern Plants; The Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East (ASTENE; Cornucopia, the magazine for connoisseurs of Turkey; the Republic of Turkey Consulate General, Edinburgh.