Photo Highlights of
John's and Barbara's Italy / Adriatic Sailing Adventure
May – June 2018

We began our trip with five days in Rome – the Eternal City.

Our obligatory photo of the Colosseum …

… and the Roman Forum just across the street.

A detail from the Arch of Titus depicting his troops carrying away the treasures of the Temple in Jerusalem. These treasures paid for the Colosseum.

The Arch of Constantine, 315 AD, as seen through an arch of the Colosseum.

St. Peter’s Basilica. John wondered if this is what Jesus would have designed if he’d lived longer.

Dinner in the Roman Antiquities room of the Vatican Museum – a special treat.

Nero's "Golden House" is being excavated by archaeologists and we were among the very few privileged to take a hard-hat tour.

We took a weeklong guided tour of Tuscany. This is the hilltop town of San Gimignano.

Leonardo was born in this town, Vinci. It hasn’t changed much since then.

Florence – a city absolutely packed with tourists … and history.

A highlight of Florence for John was a visit to the Galileo Museum where we saw two of Galileo's original telescopes from about 1610. These are the only two that survive out of about 30 that he made and gave as presents or sold.

The second half of our month-long adventure was two weeks aboard the Royal Clipper, the largest sailing ship afloat, with 220 other guests as we cruised from Rome to Venice south around Italy and then up the Adriatic Sea.

Another view of our ship with its 5 masts and 42 sails.

The masts lit at night. This must be quite a sight from shore.

The sails out at night – how grand!

Barbara in the bow net as we pass Sicily.

We spent most of our ship time outside on the Sun Deck but in the shade.

So we had a wonderful two weeks aboard the Royal Clipper. Following are places we saw from the ship – shore excursions.

Barbara negotiating a street in Pompeii. The stepping stones let people keep their feet clean and dry when crossing a street, which was also the sewer.

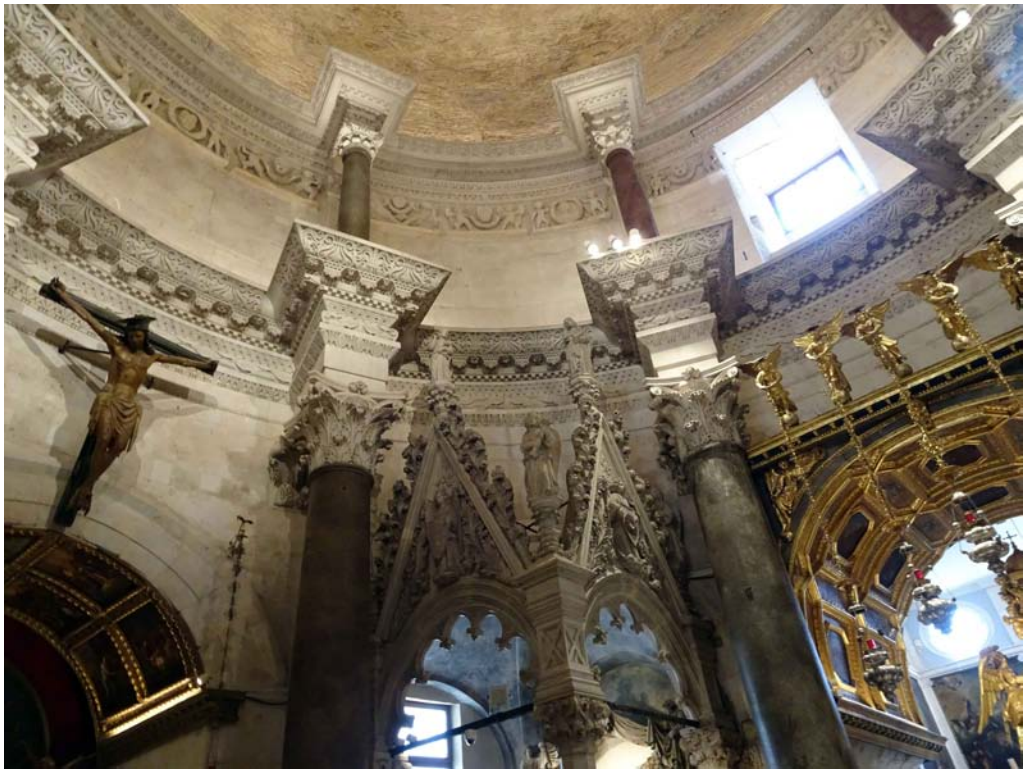
Ceiling detail in a bath in Pompeii.

Typical street in Dubrovnik, Croatia, on a warm if not hot sunny day.

View from the city walls of Dubrovnik. Our ship is in the distance just right of center.

Overlooking the resort town of Hvar, Croatia. Again our ship is right of center

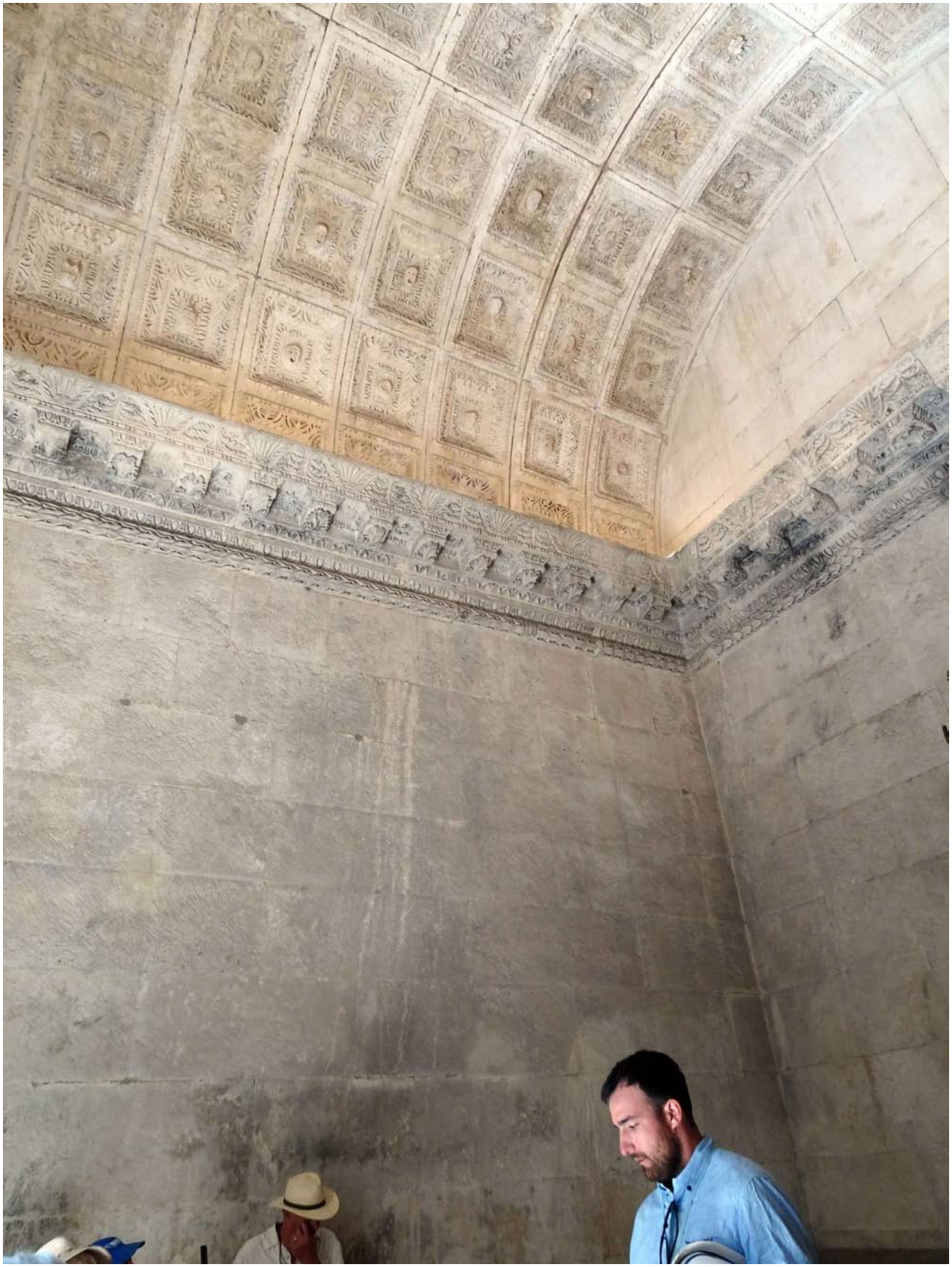
An entrance to Emperor Diocletian's palace (305 AD) in Split, Croatia.



Diocletian's Mausoleum, now a church, but virtually intact from the early 4th century.

The basement of Diocletian’s palace, here converted to gift shops …

… and here left as it was 1700 years ago. The countless pillars are massive.



Diocletian's private Temple of Jupiter. Like much of the rest of his palace, it remains in basically the same condition as when it was completed in 305 AD, including details of the ceiling.

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We had one day in Venice before flying home. This is my best shot of the Grand Canal (from the Rialto Bridge).

Our final view of Venice was from a water taxi as we cruised thru the canals on the way to Marco Polo Airport shortly after sunrise. The Venetians (and Italians in general) sure like the worn look to the sides of their homes.