

# A LOO WITH A VIEW

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While exploring the Roman ruins of Sabratha on the Mediterranean coast of Libya in 2014, I came upon the men's bathroom in the Gymnasium. "Now here's a loo with a view!" I exclaimed, and noticed it was designed to have water flowing through the trough below the series of toilets.

Founded as a trading post by the Phoenicians in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC, it was settled and rebuilt by the Romans some 500 years later, flourishing for centuries as a main supplier of olive oil for the Empire. Monumental temples and theatres were constructed, along with sumptuous villas adorned with gorgeous mosaic floors. All of this has been excavated for the visitor to explore as a preserved UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It's a shame Libya has collapsed into chaos now, for Sabratha and nearby Leptis Magna are among the most magnificent Roman ruins anywhere. One day the chaos will be over. (*Glimpses of Our Breathtaking World* #246 photo ©Jack Wheeler)

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