The ports of the Roman Mediterranean have been the focus of renewed interest in recent years. However, we still know little about their relationships to imperial Rome, which were mediated through Portus and Ostia.

Did demands for agricultural staples and other products by Rome generate a unified trading system or an aggregation of connected regional networks working at different scales? What roles were played by ports in such networks, and how did they change in the course of the imperial era? What were the relationships between these ports and the towns involved in the production of the agricultural staples?

The main focus of this Workshop is to focus upon methodological and interpretational challenges that confront specialists exploring inter-port connectivity and networks, particularly those focused upon Rome. The principal geographical focus of the Workshop will be the western Mediterranean, although not to the exclusion of papers concerning the east.

The chronological horizon will be between the Augustan period and the middle of the 3rd century AD, although this will not exclude the late antique period from discussion.

The workshop is held in collaboration with:
- The British Academy
- Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici di Ostia
- Escuela Española de Arqueología y Historia Antigua en Roma
- Institut Català d'Arqueologia Clàssica
- Université d'Aix-en-Provence / CNRS
- Society for Libyan Studies
- Universidad de Sevilla

The workshop will be held in the Sainsbury Lecture Theatre - The British School at Rome
All welcome.
Working languages: English, Italian, French, Spanish

Further information about the workshop can be found on the British School at Rome web site: www.bsr.ac.uk
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Rome: 6th - 8th March 2008

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