



AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER

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Splendida Sicilia

AN INCLUSIVE GROUP TOUR: SEPTEMBER 1 – 8, 2018

\$1550 per person double occupancy

\$1800 per person single occupancy

\$300 deposit due by March 15, 2018 to reserve a spot

Daily Trip Itinerary

Saturday, September 1, 2018: Arrive in Palermo

Sunday, September 2, 2018: Erice, Marsala, and Selinunte

Monday, September 3, 2018: Agrigento and Piazza Armerina

Tuesday, September 4, 2018: Mount Etna and Taormina

Wednesday, September 5, 2018: Syracuse and Noto

Thursday, September 6, 2018: Catania and Cefalu

Friday, September 7, 2018: Monreale and Palermo

Saturday, September 8, 2018: Depart Palermo



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Detailed Trip Itinerary

Saturday, September 1, 2018: Arrive in Palermo

Upon arrival in Palermo, you will be taken to the hotel via airport transfer. The travel group will meet in the evening to meet the Sicilian tour guide and learn more about the trip while enjoying a welcome cocktail.

Sunday, September 2, 2018: Erice, Marsala, and Selinunte

The day begins in Erice, a small Sicilian town with spectacular views. We will see the remains of ancient Elymian and Phoenician walls, the Pepoli Castle, and Venus Castle, built on top of the ancient Temple of Venus. The group will spend lunch in Marsala and visit a wine cellar where we will sample some vino.

After lunch, we will spend the afternoon in Selinunte, an ancient Greek city between the valleys of the Belice and Modione rivers. We will visit the archaeological site complete with 5 temples!

*If the roads to Erice are closed, the group will spend the morning



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Detailed Trip Itinerary

Monday, September 3, 2018: Agrigento and Piazza Armerina

In Agrigento we will visit the Valley of the Temples which contains 7 Doric temples. The site is a stunning example of Greek art and architecture and is a UNESCO world heritage site.

We will spend the afternoon at Piazza Armerina, a city that has existed since prehistoric times. While here we'll visit the Villa Romana del Casal, a UNESCO world heritage site which has some of the richest, largest, and most complex Roman mosaics in the world.

Tuesday, September 4, 2018: Mount Etna and Taormina

We will spend the morning exploring Mount Etna an active stratovolcano. The group will travel as far as 1900 meters.

Those interested may, for an additional charge, ascend higher by 4x4 minibuses and an authorized guide in order to visit the main craters.

The group will spend the afternoon in Taormina, a small city with gorgeous beaches located in the province of Messina.

We will visit the ancient theater of Taormina built by the Greeks in 3 BC and still used for operatic performances today!



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Detailed Trip Itinerary

Wednesday, September 5, 2018: Syracuse and Noto

Syracuse, is known for its rich Greek history, culture, amphitheatres, and architecture and is listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. While there, we will visit Ortygia, the fountain of Arethusa, the temple of Athena, a Greek theater, and the Ear of Dionysus.

We will spend the afternoon in Noto, a UNESCO world heritage site. The city is known for its cathedral constructed in the early 18th century in the Sicilian Baroque style. The cathedral is dedicated to Saint Nicholas of Myra.

Thursday, September 6, 2018: Catania and Cefalu

Catania is an ancient port city which sits at the foot of Mt. Etna. We will see the city's Piazza del Duomo which includes the Fontana dell'Elefante statue and Catania Cathedral. The group will spend the afternoon in Cefalu, a small city with an historic town, rocky headland, and a picturesque beach. The city is home to a large Cathedral built by the Normans in the early 12th century.



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Detailed Trip Itinerary

Friday, September 7, 2018: Monreale and Palermo

Monreale in the province of Palermo overlooks La Conca d'oro or the Golden Shell, a very fertile valley known for its almond, olive, and orange trees.

While in Monreale we will visit the Cathedral and Cloister of Monreale. The cathedral is known for its beautiful mosaics. In the afternoon, we will return to Palermo and tour the city center.

Saturday, September 8, 2018: Depart Palermo

We will have one last breakfast as a group and then it is time for travelers to depart. If you are interested in extending the trip, the AICC is glad to assist.



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Trip Specifics

The cost of this 8 day, seven night trip to Sicily is \$1,550 per person double occupancy and \$1,800 per person single occupancy. To reserve a spot on the trip, you must make a non-refundable \$300 deposit per person by March 15, 2018. The trip begins on Saturday, September 1, 2018 and ends on Saturday, September 8, 2018. Final payment is due by July 18, 2018.

The trip cost includes:

- Bus tour though Sicily
- Native tour leader and local guides for attractions
- Accommodation in 4 star hotels (Announced 1 week prior to the trip)
 - The night of September 1 will be spent in Palermo
 - The night of September 2 will be spent in Agrigento
 - The nights of September 3, 4, & 5 will be spent in Catania
 - The night of September 6 & 7 will be spent in Palermo
- Transportation to and from the Palermo Airport
- All meals (wine and water included!)
- A vineyard tasting in Marsala
- Use of audio receivers
- An Italian language class at the AICC (Traveler's class summer 2018).

The trip cost does NOT include: Airfare (The AICC can assist with booking flights if needed. We can also help book trip extensions.), tickets to local attractions as well as local and touristic taxes at hotels (Total cost about \$100 pp) or travel Insurance (The AICC can assist with booking if needed.)

This trip involves walking. The tour includes moderate physical activity. The itinerary blends some longer days with shorter days and more leisure time. Walking tours, as well as walking slightly longer distances, up stairs or on uneven walking surfaces should be expected.

For more information or to reserve a spot please call the AICC: 504-522-7294, email Alessandro: alessandro@AmericanItalianCulturalCenter.com, or visit our website www.AmericanItalianCulturalCenter.com