

Sicily: An Intimate Journey Tour

An Immersive, Small Group Tour

Hosted By Travel with Me-Allen B September 3-12, 2025

Highlights

A 10-day tour through rich multicultural history, breathtaking landscapes, charming villages, and Mediterranean seascapes. You will be immersed in Sicilian culture, eat fabulous meals, be engulfed by spectacular vistas as vou walk cobblestone medieval and renaissance villages while your Italian speaking host, Allen Bartimioli, escorts you throughout your journey.







My Sicilian Heritage

I was raised in a small town in the East Bay Area near San Francisco, California. The town that I grew up in, Pittsburg, CA, was founded by Sicilian immigrants who migrated there around the turn of the 20th century. My nannu and nanna were two of those new Americans. The town of Isola delle Femnine, Sicily exported about 20% of the population to this area along the San Juaquin River. The San Juaquin empties out into the San Francisco Bay and was an ideal location for commercial fishing. This was the primary reason for the mass migration. I grew up surrounded by the descendants of these migrants who held tightly to many of their rich Sicilian traditions. A love for food, family and passionate expression were seeded deep within me. When I finally had the chance to visit Sicily, I realized why Northern California had such a magnetic draw on Sicilians. The rolling landscape, proximity to ample fishing and rich, fertile soil were constant reminders of the land they left behind. Join me, as we take a small group deep dive into the wonder of Sicily. (6 people Max)

Your journey will be focused on the southern and eastern coast of

this spectacular Island

Day 1

Depart Phoenix Sky Harbor or relevant airport for overnight flight to Rome, Italy.

Day 2

Land in Rome and catch a short flight to Palermo, Sicily. Here we will grab our van and drive into the historic center of Palermo. This is where we will begin our tour.

Day 3

After breakfast we will wander around the amazing historic center of Palermo. We will stroll at leisure amongst the cathedrals, catacombs and architecture while tasting Sicilian street-food. We will join this evening for our first Sicilian meal together.

Day 4

After breakfast we will depart for the medieval hilltop town of Erice. We will climb aboard a gondola and ascend to the village taking in the incredible view of sicily. We will walk inside lovely churches, wander the cobblestone streets and visit the Castle of Venus. From here, we will depart to the fascinating town of Agrigento.



Day 5

After breakfast we will travel a short distance to the Val di Templi (Valley of the Temples) here we will walk amongst the richest collection of Greek ruins outside of Greece itself. After our archeological exploration we will return to Agrigento for dinner together. Agrigento was our favorite town for food when Ellen and I visited Sicily.

Day 6

On this day we will visit three Sicilian lost in time medieval/renaissance villages of Ragusa, Ragusa Ibla and Noto. This will be our most ambitious day as we attempt to take on these three UNESCO World Heritage towns. The day will be long but filled with wonder and spectacle. We will finish our day arriving at Ortigia where we will gather for another wonderful dinner.

Day 7

After breakfast and a laid-back morning, we will explore the renaissance town of Ortigia whose Piazza Duomo is one of the most beautiful Piazzas in all of Italy. We will visit the Neopolis Amphitheater in Siracusa and take a boat ride to explore the many sea caves along the Sicilian Coast. Of course we will join to experience another delicious Sicilian dinner.

Day 8

After breakfast we will depart to the Famous active volcano, Mount Etna. We will drive to the gondola that will lift us to the very top of the volcano. From there we will head to Taormina and wander amongst the artisan shops, awe at the incredible architecture and culminate our day in the ancient Amphitheater overlooking the Mediterranean and Mount Etna.

Day 9

This day will be a day of rest as we lounge on the beautiful Mazzaro Beach without a care in the world



Day 10

Day 11

Head back to Palermo, Fly to Rome. Overnight in Rome.

Depart for home

Cost is \$2,899 per person. For single room supplement, please add \$700.

Rate Includes:

- All 9 nights in lovely hotels
- All tours, attractions and activities mentioned
- All transportation costs and fees including vehicle rentals, fuel, tolls, and parking while in Italy
- Daily breakfast and dinner while in Sicily
- All, gratuities, and taxes
- Trip cancellation if we purchase your airfare (If you want to use points or arrange your own flights, my trip cancellation insurance will not cover you)

Rate does not include:

- Extras not mentioned
- International Airfare
- Lunches
- Snacks (Yes, this includes gelato)
- Traveler's medical insurance (This is highly recommended)