



Sicily: An Intimate Journey Tour

An Immersive, Small Group Tour

Hosted By Travel with Me-Allen B
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Highlights

An 11-day tour through rich multicultural history, breathtaking landscapes, charming villages, and Mediterranean seascapes. You will be immersed in Sicilian culture, eat fabulous meals and be engulfed by spectacular vistas as you 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 (grandparents) were two of those new Americans. The town of Isola delle Femmine, Sicily exported about 20% of the population to this area along the San Juakin River. The San Juakin 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

Before the Tour

Arrive in Rome from your international flight.
(I recommend arriving two nights prior to the tour)

Day 1

The tour begins as we catch a short flight to Palermo, Sicily. Here we will take a shuttle to our beautiful hotel in the heart of Palermo. We will share a wonderful dinner together.

Day 2

After breakfast we will spend a full day wandering 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 another Sicilian meal together.

Day 3

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 a short drive to Trapani. We will spend the afternoon wandering this gorgeous seaside village which holds amazing historic treasures in its streets and museums. Once again, we will join for a shared meal.

Day 4

Today we will climb onboard a boat for a small group cruise from Trapani to the Egaldi Islands. We will stop, Dive, Swim and snorkel in the clear waters around Favignana and Levanzo.

Day 5

After breakfast we will travel to the Valle di Templi (Valley of the Temples). We will visit the Unesco Scala Dei Turchi, spend some time on the nearby beach and have lunch together. We will settle into our hotel then take a sunset tour of the Valle di Templi.



Day 6

Today will be a relaxed morning. Our hotel has free bikes. If you like, you can arrange horseback riding on your own for a fee. You can also take a lovely walk along the Mediterranean. After lunch on your own, we will head up to the hilltop village of Agrigento, spend time wandering the renaissance center and enjoy a fabulous dinner together.

Day 7

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 8

After breakfast and a laid-back morning, at leisure, 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 Neapolis 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 9

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 and awe at the incredible architecture. We will culminate our day in the ancient Amphitheater overlooking the Mediterranean and Mount Etna and finish with a meal overlooking the Adriatic Sea.

Day 10

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



Day 11

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

Day 12

Depart for home

Cost is \$3,800 per person.

For single room supplement, please add \$800.

Rate Includes:

- All 11 nights in lovely hotels in the hearts of our Sicilian towns
- All tours, attractions and activities mentioned
- All transportation costs and fees including vehicle rentals, fuel, tolls, and parking while in Italy
- Daily breakfast and one other lunch or dinner while in Sicily
- All, gratuities, and taxes
- Flight cancellation insurance if I handle your airfare and you fly with me. (If you want to use points or arrange your own flights, my flight cancellation insurance will not cover you)

Rate does not include:

- Extras not mentioned
- International Airfare
- Lunches
- Snacks (Yes, this includes canoli)
- Traveler's medical insurance (This is highly recommended)
- Pre tour or post tour expenses

Important Notes: This trip requires at least 2-3 miles of walking a day. There are hills, stairs and sometimes we walk at pace. Also, we travel a few windy roads through mountains and hillsides. Some of our drives are 2-3 hours long. While Sicily is known for its amazing food, you will find that the most common offerings have seafood. If you struggle with any of the above, this trip is probably not for you.