



**SMALL GROUP**  
Maximum of  
28 Travelers

**LAND  
JOURNEY**

# Sketches of Sicily

## Inspiring Moments

- ▶ **Discover ancient Sicilian treasures**, and **marvel at man-made creations** seemingly untouched by time.
- ▶ Soak up thespian history at **Taormina's ancient theater**, which frames a spectacular backdrop of sapphire coastline and a brooding Mount Etna.
- ▶ Sample the region's delectable pizza after an **exclusive cooking demonstration**.
- ▶ Gaze at **intricate Roman floor mosaics** — including scenes of mythological sagas and African animals — **at Villa Romana del Casale**.
- ▶ **Tour a family-run olive farm**, and sample the organic olive oil produced on the property.
- ▶ Explore former centers of the Elymian civilization: **Segesta and Erice**.
- ▶ Experience four **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.

## INCLUDED FEATURES

### ACCOMMODATIONS

(With baggage handling.)

- **Three nights** in Palermo, Italy, at the first-class Mercure Excelsior Palermo City.
- **Two nights** in Caltagirone at the Colle San Mauro, an agritourism hotel.
- **Three nights** in Taormina at the first-class Grand Hotel Atlantis Bay.

### TRANSFERS

- All deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program and baggage handling.

### EXTENSIVE MEAL PROGRAM

- Eight breakfasts, four lunches and four dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties during meals at local restaurants.

### YOUR ONE-OF-A-KIND JOURNEY

- **Discovery excursions** highlight the local culture, heritage and history.
- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome Reception to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Clearly hear your English-speaking guide with your VOX headset.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

### ITINERARY

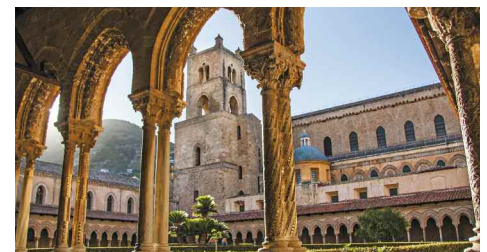
- Day 1** Depart gateway city<sup>†</sup>
- Day 2** Arrive in Palermo
- Day 3** Monreale | Palermo
- Day 4** Erice | Segesta
- Day 5** Agrigento | Caltagirone
- Day 6** Piazza Armerina | Caltagirone
- Day 7** Taormina
- Day 8** Syracuse
- Day 9** Taormina
- Day 10** Transfer to Catania airport and depart for gateway city<sup>†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>Flights and transfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.



*Monreale Cathedral*



**AMA**  
AMERICAN MEDICAL  
ASSOCIATION

DISCOVERY

**Monreale and Palermo.** Visit Monreale's Santa Maria la Nuova, a cathedral with splendid mosaics, and admire views of the Conca d'Oro. Experience Palermo's lively market, and visit the cathedral, a blend of Gothic, Moorish and Norman architecture. Visit the Palatine Chapel in the Norman Palace; see the Arab-Norman domes of Saint John of the Hermits; and see Italy's largest theater.

**Erice and Segesta.** In Erice, see two medieval castles and walls that date from the Phoenician era, and marvel at Romanesque architecture of the Norman Duomo. In ancient Segesta, see a spectacular Doric temple and a theater carved into the side of Mount Barbao.

**Olive Farm Visit.** Visit an award-winning, family-owned olive farm for lunch. Enjoy a tasting, learn how the oil is made and visit with the family.

**Agrigento and the Valley of the Temples.** Agrigento was founded in the sixth century B.C., and it features an excellent collection of ruins. Visit Agrigento's Valley of the Temples, and see the Temple of Hercules, the Temple of Concord and the Temple of Jupiter.

**Sicily's Mosaics.** Visit Piazza Armerina and the Villa Romana del Casale. See a display of mosaics that depicts everything from scenes of daily life to flowers and plants. This visual delight is one of the best examples of Roman mosaics remaining in the world!

**Caltagirone.** One of eight late baroque towns in the Val di Noto, Caltagirone is known for its hand-painted majolica ceramics. At the Church of Santa Maria de Monte, see the 142-step staircase with a unique painted ceramic riser between each step.

**Syracuse.** Visit the Archaeological Park in historic Syracuse, home to the Teatro Greco, a well-preserved ancient theater. Wind through the charming lanes of Syracuse's Old Town, take in the tranquility of the elegant Piazza del Duomo, and enter the Duomo, built on the site of the Temple of Athena.

**Taormina.** Explore Taormina atop Monte Tauro, and visit an ancient Greek theater with awe-inspiring coastal vistas.

**Sicilian Pizza.** Enhance your culinary skills during a private pizza-making lesson, then enjoy a delicious lunch.

ENRICHMENT

**Mafia—Past and Present.** In Sicily, the Mafia is known as Cosa Nostra. Examine the legacy of the Cosa Nostra and its effect on Sicilian society.

**Sicilian Agriculture.** Learn about the operations of a local farm, including what types of produce and animals it raises.



Agrigento

AHI Travel Expertise

**Passenger Service Representative |** Helps with everything from arranging flights to fulfilling special requests.

**Travel Director |** Manages all details to ensure a memorable trip.

**Travel information |** Prepares you fully for your journey.

**Expert local guides |** Provide friendly, knowledgeable service.

**Lecturers |** Share their knowledge of and passion for their country.

ACCOMMODATIONS

**Mercure Excelsior Palermo** ●●●●●  
City | Palermo

<http://bit.ly/mercurepalermoexcelsior>

**Colle San Mauro** | ●●●●●  
Caltagirone

<http://bit.ly/aziendaagrificuristica>

**Grand Hotel Atlantis Bay** | ●●●●●  
Taormina

<http://www.atlantisbay.it/>



The information in this flier is correct at the time of printing. Please visit our website to ensure that you receive the most current information.

ELECTIVE EXPERIENCE

We have designed an optional activity to allow you to craft your individual trip.

**Mount Etna.** Get an up-close encounter with Europe's largest active volcano. Embark on a winding ascent along the lower slopes of the volcano to the Silvestri Crater. As you gaze at remnants of past eruptions, learn about the history of Mount Etna. At a local lemon farm, gain insight into this special industry, including the unique micro climate necessary to grow the key ingredient of limoncello, the tasty Italian liqueur. Enjoy meeting the owners of the farm and relax during lunch on the property.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost

UNESCO World Heritage

1. Arab-Norman Palermo and the Cathedral Churches of Monreale
2. Archaeological Area of Agrigento
3. Villa Romana del Casale
4. Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto

Let us arrange your flights!

- ✦ **AHI FlexAir** | Our personalized air program offers incredible advantages:
  - **price guarantee**
  - arrival and departure **transfers**
  - **flexibility** to change or cancel
  - **assistance** with changes or delays
  - flight insurance

DATES & PRICES

October 9-18, 2019

From \$3,745

Special Savings \$250

**Special Price** **\$3,495**

VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single accommodations are an additional \$695 (limited availability).