



**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 theater**, an ancient treasure set against a 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 five **UNESCO World Heritage sites**.

## INCLUDED FEATURES

### Accommodations

(with baggage handling)

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

### Transfers

- Deluxe motor coach transfers during the Land Program, plus baggage handling.

### Extensive Meal Program

- 8 breakfasts, 4 lunches and 4 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

### 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.
- **AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- Free time to pursue your own interests.
- Welcome Reception to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

### Itinerary

- Day 1** Depart gateway city†
- 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†

†Transfers and flights included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions



*Ceramics in Caltagirone*



Alumni Campus Abroad®



Discovery

**AHI Connects: Olive Farm Visit.**

Visit an award-winning, family-owned olive farm for lunch. Enjoy a tasting, learn about the production of the oil and visit with the family.

**AHI Connects: Sicilian Pizza.**

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

**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; witness 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 Barbaio.

**Agrigento and the Valley of the Temples.** Agrigento, founded in the sixth century B.C., features an impressive 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.

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

**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.

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.** During a tractor ride, learn about the operations of a local farm, including what types of produce and animals it raises.



Syracuse

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/aziendaagriculturistica>

**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 Experiences

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

**Mount Etna and Sicily's Lemons.**

Get an up-close encounter with Europe's largest active volcano. Begin your journey with an ascent along the lower slopes of the volcano to the Silvestri craters. Watch as the scenery changes from orchids, woods and vineyards, and learn about the history of Mount Etna. Then travel to a local lemon farm, and gain insight into this special industry, including how 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
5. Syracuse

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

September 9-18, 2020

From \$3,845

Special Savings \$250

Special Price \$3,595

VAT is an additional \$395 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 \$745 (limited availability).