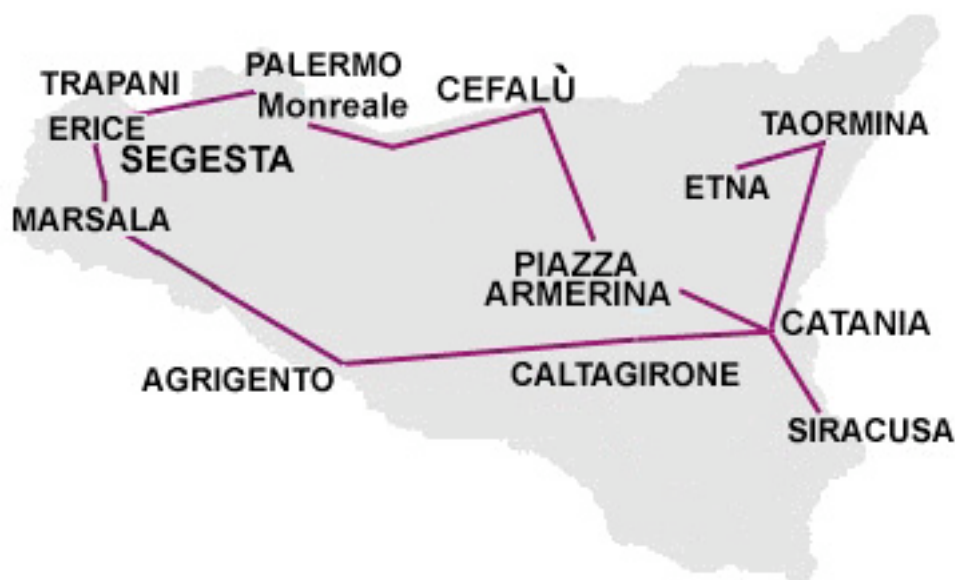


Highlights of Sicily Tour 2008



A unique island and its multicultural history in an affordable 7-night tour. Visits to the island's most famous sights are part of an enchanting odyssey. Weekly over 10 months. Group size is 2 to 25.

Reservation info (with departure dates) follows the itinerary and summary. Purchase conditions follow.

Itinerary: (All breakfasts are included; other meals included are indicated in **bold face**.)

Saturday: Arrival at Palermo. Meet your tour escort for a welcome **dinner** in a local restaurant. Overnight at hotel in Palermo.

Sunday: Following **breakfast**, we'll discover medieval Palermo with a visit to Palermo's medieval Palatine Chapel and Martorana Church, the Baroque Quattro Canti and Piazza Pretoria, then the Teatro Massimo, one of Europe's most grandiose opera houses, near the colourful Capo street market. After lunch, we'll visit the Norman abbey of Monreale, overlooking the city, famous for its Byzantine mosaics and Norman-Arab cloister. Evening at leisure. Overnight in Palermo.

Monday: **Breakfast** followed by early check-out and departure for eastern Sicily. First we'll visit Cefalù, famous for its medieval cathedral. En route to Taormina on the Ionian coast, we'll stop at Piazza Armerina to view its Roman villa and classical mosaics. Time at leisure for your own lunch, then an afternoon departure for Taormina. **Dinner** and overnight in Taormina.

Tuesday: Following **breakfast**, excursion to Siracusa (Syracuse), with a stop at Catania en route to visit its cathedral and Pescheria street market. Then on to Siracusa, home of Archimedes and one of the most important cities of the ancient Greek world. First you'll explore the old city, the island of Ortygia, where we'll have **lunch**. In the afternoon we'll discover the Syracuse archeological site. Evening at leisure and overnight in Taormina.

Wednesday: **Breakfast** followed by an entire day at leisure in charming Taormina. The atmosphere of this hilltop town, full of winding streets and enticing shops and restaurants, makes it a great place to spend a day indulging personal tastes and unexpected curiosities. Optional excursion up the slopes toward the summit of Mount Etna, Sicily's highest mountain and Europe's largest active volcano. Evening and overnight in Taormina.

Thursday: **Breakfast** and check-out. Today we visit Caltagirone, known for its ceramic (majolica) art. Time at leisure for shopping and lunch, then we depart for Agrigento to visit its Greek temples. **Dinner** and overnight at Agrigento.

Friday: Early **breakfast** and check-out. Venturing into Sicily's wine region, we'll stop to explore the Segesta archeological site. Westward, at Marsala, we'll visit a winery. In the Trapani region, we'll have a light country **lunch** on a working olive farm. This area is known for its salt pans (marshes) and wind mills. On our way to Palermo we'll visit hilltop Erice, a picturesque medieval town built upon much older Phoenician and Elymian ones. Farewell restaurant **cocktail** and overnight in Palermo.

Saturday: Check-out following buffet **breakfast**. Independent transfer to Palermo Airport.

Summary:

Prices: €**1099.00** per person double occupancy (i.e. two persons per room), €1350.00 single occupancy, payable by bank wire transfer or major credit card. Conditions and cancellation policies follow.

Includes: Seven (7) nights accommodation in 4-star hotels listed here or the equivalent substitution (usually Politeama in Palermo, Hotel della Valle in Agrigento, Hotel Lido Caparena in Taormina), transportation (coach or minibus) and tour escort for the entire trip, with all breakfasts, 3 dinners and 2 lunches, 2 cocktails, 1 winery visit, all taxes.

Does not include: Beverages, tips (gratuities) to escorts (or guides/drivers), airfare, meals not indicated, entrance fees at 6 archeological/historical sites (total approximate €55), trip insurance, airport transfers, portage, anything not mentioned under "Includes" above.

Accommodation: Double room with private bathroom. Single room with supplement.

Guide/Escort Language: English.

Group Size: From 2 to 25 participants.

Dates offered: Departures from Palermo as indicated here.

No other agency in Sicily offers this frequency and number of departures.

Tours begin on every Saturday from 16 February to 13 December 2008 (early reservation advised for July and August):

16 February, 23 February, 1 March, 15 March, 22 March, 29 March, 5 April, 12 April, 19 April, 26 April, 3 May, 10 May, 17 May, 24 May, 31 May, 7 June, 14 June, 21 June, 28 June, 5 July, 12 July, 19 July, 26 July, 2 August, 9 August, 16 August, 23 August, 30 August, 6 September, 13 September, 20 September, 27 September, 4 October, 11 October, 18 October, 25 October, 1 November, 8 November, 15 November, 22 November, 29 November, 6 December, 13 December.

Note major Italian legal holidays: 1 January, 6 January, 23 March, 24 March, 25 April, 1 May, 2 June, 15 August, 8 December, 25 December, 26 December.

Reservations:

To reserve contact us at **historic-tour@bestofsicily.com** indicating "Highlights" in the subject line, or by phone at +39 091 626 9685, or fax +39 091 380 9900.

This tour is organized by **Chat & Tour** (Tradizione Turismo), Via Autonomia Siciliana 23, 90143 Palermo, Italy.

Conditions and Terms:

Payment may be effected by bank wire transfer or major credit card. Prices are indicated in euros and valid through 31 December 2008. In the event of currency conversion to euros, the conversion rate shall be that of the day of payment; in the event of several payments for a single service the conversion rate may vary slightly based on the day's current exchange rate. All services are prepaid at least one month prior to the beginning of the tour, with earlier payment or deposit (of at least 50% of the total cost) required to reserve a place in the tour. In the event of cancellation, the following portion of the

total tour price will be claimed by the agency: 10% 20-29 days before departure, 25% 10-19 days before departure, 50% 4-9 days before departure, 90% within 3 days of departure. At its discretion, the agency may waive such claims. If purchased directly from the Italian tour operator, service shall be governed by the laws of the Italian Republic and the European Union. Local laws apply for any tour purchased through a travel agent outside Italy. It is the responsibility of each participant to be in possession of the necessary travel document, such as a valid passport. We reserve the right to substitute hotels if necessary. Basic services are insured in compliance with Italian law. Certain fees indicated, particularly admission fees at archeological sites, are subject to change without notice. Hotel ratings are those established by the Italian travel commission and may differ from those indicated in privately-published travel guides. Tours depart from Palermo on dates specified. Unless the tour is purchased by a travel agent representing us, billing is processed through Chat & Tour, Palermo, Italy.