

Patsy Gaut Tours presents...

Old World Sicily & Malta

Departing May 22 - June 2, 2027

Highlights...



Malta ● Grand Harbour Boat Ride ● Valletta ● Ferry to Sicily ● Aromatic Herb Farm Visit ● Ragusa-Ibla ● Siracusa ● Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion ● Taormina's Greek Theatre

12 Days • 15 Meals: 10 Breakfasts • 2 Lunches • 3 Dinners

Per Person Land Rates*: **Double \$4,899**; Single \$6,099; Triple \$4,849

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

For more information contact - Collette • 1-800-581-8942 please refer to booking #1325153

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person, Round Trip Air, Hotel Transfers of \$150 per person (included with the purchase of Collette Air)

**Air is available from your local gateway, please call for pricing

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees

Cultural Connections

- ★ Soak up the island ambiance of Malta with a 4-night stay in Sliema.
- ★ Delve into Maltese culture during a tour of a traditional limestone village
- ★ Ascend the sides of Mount Etna (UNESCO) in off-road vehicles.

Day 1: Overnight Flight

You're on your way to Malta and Sicily – legendary isles nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean. Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society as you travel along timeless Italian and Maltese towns.

Day 2: Sliema, Malta

Start your journey with a 4-night stay in Sliema, a welcoming Maltese resort town with a lively waterfront promenade. As travelers' arrival times will vary, we have not included any sightseeing today. Spend the day as you wish, exploring the city independently. Stretch your legs and take in views of Marsamxett Harbour and Manoel Island. Uncover Malta's deeply rooted heritage, teeming with mysterious prehistoric temples and Renaissance architectural masterpieces. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers over a welcome dinner. *Today dinner will be included*.

Day 3: Sliema - Valletta - Sliema

Begin your adventure with a panoramic sailing of Valletta's (UNESCO) Grand Harbour aboard traditional *Dghajsa* boats* before exploring the Maltese capital during a walking tour led by a local expert. View the skyline of the Three Cities from the Upper Barrakka Gardens and take in the elegant profile of the Grand Master's Palace. Then, enjoy some free time to explore on your own. This afternoon, visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta before hopping on the local ferry* back to Sliema for an evening at leisure. *Today breakfast will be included*.

Day 4: Sliema - Maltese Village Experience

Enjoy a morning at leisure. Perhaps you'll join a half-day optional tour to Mdina – the "Silent City" and Malta's ancient capital. This afternoon, immerse yourself in Maltese traditions as you board a retro bus for a village where daily life and customs remain unchanged. Experience an Impact Moment as you are hosted for dinner at a local band club. Band clubs have a special place in the community. A source of intense pride and with a solid place in Maltese social culture, the band club's premises are an ideal meeting point for locals to exchange gossip, play a game of pool, or engage in village festa activities. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

Day 5: Sliema

The entire day is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in Sliema or venture back to Valletta for a visit to Caravaggio's masterpiece housed in Saint John's Co-Cathedral. Or, join an optional full day exploration of the Isle of Gozo,* the second-largest island of the Maltese archipelago and home to Ggantiha temple complex (UNESCO), which is older than Stonehenge. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 6: Sliema - Ferry to Sicily - Ragusa, Italy

Early this morning, grab your bags** and hop on a ferry*** to Sicily. Pause in the seaside town of Pozzallo for a Sicilian breakfast. As in most of Italy, breakfast in Sicily is a simple but tasty affair, traditionally consisting of a pastry and *cappuccino*. Continue your culinary exploration of the Sicilian countryside with an **Impact Moment:** a visit to a family-owned herb farm to learn about their sustainable production of organic aromatic plants. Then, during lunch, enjoy dishes enlivened with herbs grown on the farm. A delightful way to experience the region's unique and delicious flavors. This afternoon, settle into your hotel for a leisurely 3-night stay in the heart of Ragusa. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included*.

Day 7: Ragusa - Ragusa-Ibla - Ragusa

Explore Ragusa-Ibla (UNESCO), a time-worn city perched upon a hill. Meander through its late-Baroque neighborhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies.

Make the most of a free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, linger in town for dinner on your own. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 8: Ragusa

The day is yours to do as you please. With free time, you might choose to relax in Ragusa. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to the picture-perfect towns of Scicli and Modica (UNESCO), where you'll enjoy a savory brunch featuring fresh ricotta at a countryside restaurant before venturing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. *Today breakfast will be included*.

Day 9: Ragusa - Siracusa - Taormina

Take in the rugged landscape of South-Eastern Sicily en route to Siracusa (UNESCO). Then, **it's your choice!** Explore the fascinating streets of Ortigia and find out more about local culture and traditions in the company of a local expert **-OR-** take in the views of the old town during a panoramic boat ride. This afternoon, relax during a bus transfer to Taormina, a charming resort town perched high above the Mediterranean Sea. *Today breakfast will be included.*

Day 10: Taormina - Mount Etna - Taormina

See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna (UNESCO). Stare up at the iconic peak as your vehicle climbs along the sides of

Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks before pausing for lunch at a local home. Back in Taormina, enjoy an evening at leisure. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included*.

Day 11: Taormina

Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theater. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Enjoy a free afternoon in town. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. In the evening, gather with your fellow travelers as you recount memories of the Mediterranean islands accompanied by Sicilian food at dinner, surrounded by local musicians. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included*.

Day 12: Taormina - Tour Ends

Say goodbye to Sicily and the Mediterranean as your tour comes to a close today. Today breakfast will be included.

Explore. Connect. Live. _____ Malta

Malta may be small in size, but that's where its minuteness stops. Malta is south of Sicily but is only 1% of the size of the well-known Italian island. Despite its initial appearance, the country is actually made up of a set of islands, all close together. This coastal paradise preserves endless layers of history. Malta once served as the home of Neolithic farmers, it holds age-old foundations from the Middle Ages, it served as the battleground for key fights of the Knights of Malta, and the island also played a strategic role for the Allies in WWII as a base. Malta has been inhabited since 5,000 BC, and this dynamic history is woven into its modern culture. Today, you can explore this intriguing past as well

as soak up the sunshine on this relaxing Mediterranean getaway.

YOUR ITINERARY AT A GLANCE		
Day	/ 1	Overnight Flight
Day	y 2 – 5	Land's End Boutique Hotel, Tas-Sliema
Day	6 – 8	San Giorgio Palace Hotel, Ragusa
Day	y 9 – 11	Excelsior Palace Hotel Taormina, Taormina
On some dates alternate hotels may be used.		

Important Tour Information:

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Agility is required to board the local boats and ferries used in Malta as well as boarding the offroad vehicles used for the Mount Etna excursion.

**Travelers are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the ferry to Sicily. The distance you need to cover carrying your luggage may range between 100 and 200 yards, and there are no luggage trolleys available in the ports.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

You should expect large crowds in Valletta and Taormina. Both visits require the ability to walk a minimum of 1.5 miles over cobblestoned streets with steep inclines and stairs with no handrails. The cities of Mdina, Ragusa, Modica, Scicli, and Siracusa present similar conditions.

The Mount Etna excursion includes an ascent to 6500 feet/2000 meters above sea level.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Most shops and businesses in Malta and Italy are closed on Sundays and on observances of national, local, or religious holidays.

***Depending on the ferry schedule to Sicily, you may depart your hotel as early as 4:00 a.m. Due to the early departure time, breakfast will not be available at the hotel this morning. A cafeteria is available aboard the ferry. Upon arrival in Sicily you will stop for a continental breakfast at a local café. In the case of adverse sea conditions, the ferry to Sicily may be delayed or cancelled

resulting in partial reduction of your time on the island. In case of this event, there will be a replacement accommodation arranged and a comparable program on Malta.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

*Traditional Dghajsa boats are small, each one seating approximately 5-7 people. Sailing is weather dependent and may be postponed or cancelled in case of adverse weather or sea conditions. Local ferries to Sliema and Gozo are also weather and sea dependent and may be cancelled or postponed as required. The isle of Gozo can only be reached by ferry which may result in a day swap or a cancellation of the optional tour.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Our return transfers will depart from Taormina to Catania airport.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Our air travelers will depart from Catania airport.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

Travel Requirements:

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

ETIAS visa waiver requirements are anticipated to begin during the last quarter of 2026, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit https://travel-europe.europa.eu/etias_en

A deposit of \$349 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of September 16, 2026 are based upon availability. Final payment due by February 21, 2027. Deposits are refundable up until September 23, 2026.