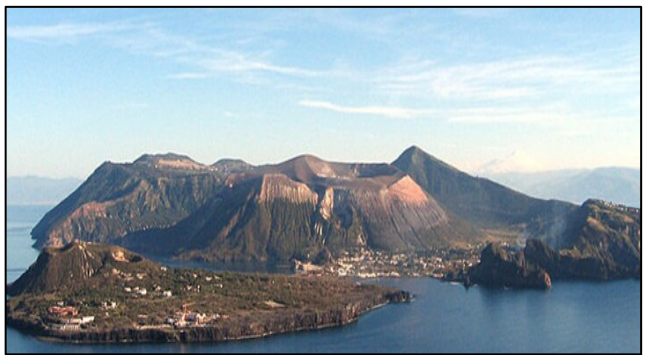


11 Days / 9 Nights

GRAND TOUR OF SICILY

with the

Aeolian Islands



Departures:

March & November at \$TBA*

April, Early May & October at \$TBA*

*Rates are for payment by credit card. See back for discount cash and check rates. Rates are per person, twin occupancy, and INCLUDE \$TBA in air taxes, fees, and fuel surcharges (subject to change).

OUR 11-DAY/9-NIGHT GRAND TOUR OF SICILY ITINERARY:

DAY 1 – BOSTON~INTERMEDIATE CITY~PALERMO: Depart Boston's Logan Airport our transatlantic flight to Palermo (*via intermediate city*) with full meal and beverage service, and stereo headsets, available while in flight.

DAY 2 – PALERMO: Upon arrival in Palermo, we will meet our Tour Host, who will help us transfer to the Hotel Astoria Palace (or similar). After time to freshen up, we'll enjoy a welcome cocktail and dinner at the hotel this evening. (D) Hotel website - <http://www.ghshotels.it/astoria/>

DAY 3 – PALERMO/MONREALE: After breakfast, we will tour the capital of Sicily – Palermo! We will visit both the most sacred and the most profane of the Arab, Norman, and Svevo periods. We will visit the Norman Cathedral, the Norman Palace (today home of the parliament), the Cappella Palatina, and San Rosario. After lunch (on our own), we will visit the Cathedral of Monreale, site of the Capital of the Monasteries, followed by a walk to the Piazza Politcamo in the heart of the city. Late in the afternoon, we will return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 4 – SEGESTA~ERICE~MARSALA~AGRIGENTO: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we head west to Segesta to experience the inspiring Doric temple (*built in 424 BC*) and the Greek theater. Continuing along, will visit the mountaintop town of Erice and enjoy its spectacular panoramic views prior to travelling to the westernmost tip of Sicily and Marsala. In Marsala we will enjoy a wine tasting and have a panoramic tour of the city (*founded by the Phoenicians in the 8th century BC*) to see the Duomo, the Church of St. Peter, the Church of St. Mary of the Grotto, and much more. We will stop for lunch (*on our own*). Later in the afternoon we proceed to Agrigento for hotel check-in, dinner, and overnight at the *Grand Hotel Mose* (or similar). (B, D) Hotel website: www.iashotels.com

DAY 5 – AGRIGENTO AREA: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will visit the impressive National Museum of Archaeology, which houses a huge collection of artifacts from many different periods of habitation of the Agrigento area. Next, we will visit the 18th century house of the Nobel Prize-winning author, Luigi Pirandello. After lunch at our hotel, we will visit Piazza Armerina, where we will be able to walk through the impressive 3rd century Roman Villa, excavated in 1955. We will visit its crowning jewel, the famous Roman *Villa of Casale*, a country estate from the 2nd century of the Roman era. We will check into Hotel Ariston (or similar) in Taormina. Dinner and overnight. (BB, D)

DAY 6 – TAORMINA: After breakfast, a local expert guide will conduct a half-day sightseeing tour of Taormina, including visits to all of the major attractions (such as the world famous Greek and Roman theater) and a complete orientation of the city. After lunch (on our own), we have the afternoon at leisure, for independent sightseeing, shopping, or a visit to the beautiful local beaches in the Taormina area! Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 7 – CATANIA~MOUNT ETNA: After breakfast, we will travel to Catania, at the southern foot of Mount Etna. We will take a panoramic tour of this wonderful city, known for its straight streets and attractive buildings which date from the reconstruction after the eruption of 1693. We will visit the Duomo (site of the Chapel of Saint Agatha) and the open-air market. After lunch (on our own), we'll travel through the many varied vegetable and fruit areas on the slopes of Mount Etna. Arriving at an altitude of 2,500 feet, we will be above the tree line. We will have a perfect view of the three Silvestri Craters and the River of Lava (a remnant of the 1983-1985 eruption). Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 8 – SIRACUSA: After breakfast, we will take a full-day tour of the Siracusa Geological Zone, where we will visit the Greek Theater, the Roman Amphitheater, the Altar of Gerone, the Cave of Cordari, and the Ear of Dionysius. Continuing to the Medieval City, we will see the beautiful architecture of the Baroque Period, constructed at a time of much wealth and prosperity. We will also stop and visit The Cathedral. Return to Taormina for dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 9 – AEOLIAN ISLANDS OF LIPARI & VULCANO: After breakfast, we depart for a mini-cruise of the Aeolian Islands. Only seven of the 17 Aeolian Islands are inhabited. This archipelago, commonly called the Lipari Islands, is located on the northeast of the Sicilian coast. It can easily be reached by ferry from Sicily. If you've read Roman mythology, you'll be familiar with Thermessa or Vulcano. It was the abode of Vulcan, the Roman God of Fire, and also the entrance to Hades. Vulcano is a volcanic island, and Thucydides, Siculus, and Aristotle have recorded eruptions. Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 10 – TAORMINA: After breakfast, we'll enjoy a free day for independent sightseeing, shopping, or relaxing. Optional tours are available (at additional expense). Dinner and overnight. (B, D)

DAY 11 – TAORMINA~CATANIA~INTERMEDIATE CITY~BOSTON: After breakfast and hotel check-out, we will be transferred to the Catania Airport to board our return flight to Boston (*via intermediate city*), with full meal and beverage service while in flight. (B)

OUR 11-DAY/9-NIGHT TOUR OF SICILY WITH AEOLIAN ISLANDS INCLUDES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

- ❖ Round-trip motorcoach transportation to and from Boston's Logan Airport. FREE with a minimum of 35 paying passengers. Additional charge with fewer than 35.
- ❖ Special meet-and-greet service and assistance at Logan Airport by a Durgan Travel Service Representative.
- ❖ Round-trip flights Boston-intermediate city-Palermo and Catania-intermediate city-Boston with full meal and beverage service aloft.
- ❖ 9-nights' accommodations at the hotels described in the itinerary, based on twin occupancy. The single supplement is an additional \$TBA per single. *Limited availability - may be unavailable or subject to surcharge.* Triples are available at the twin rate.
- ❖ Comprehensive sightseeing package, as described in the itinerary, including entrance fees, where applicable.
- ❖ Expert English-speaking guides, where required, and professional Tour Escort, who will accompany our group throughout the tour.
- ❖ All transfers and sightseeing aboard our private, deluxe, temperature-controlled motorcoach.
- ❖ Porterage of luggage at the hotels.
- ❖ All meal and room taxes (for included meals), and gratuities to bellmen.
- ❖ Breakfast (B) each morning, and dinner (D) each evening.
- ❖ Welcome Cocktail our first night in Palermo.
- ❖ Complimentary Durgan Travel Service flight bag and complete packet of required travel documents.

**A \$TBA DEPOSIT IS DUE UPON RECEIPT OF FLYER. THE BALANCE IS DUE 75 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.
SPACE IS LIMITED~BOOK NOW~FIRST COME FIRST SERVED!**

TRAVEL PROTECTION INSURANCE: All persons traveling with **Durgan Travel Service** are automatically enrolled in **Travel Protection Insurance** through **Trip Mate (1-800-888-7292)** if they checked off the "YES" box on the Reservation Form. Please **ONLY** call **Trip Mate** if you have questions about your insurance or your eligibility. The plan covers trip cancellation or pre- or post-trip interruption, and tour operator/cruise line/airline bankruptcy up to the cost of the trip and travel delay up to \$750 (*max. \$150 per day*). Emergency evacuation is covered up to \$50,000. Accident or Sickness Medical Expense is covered up to \$25,000. Lost or stolen baggage/personal effects are covered up to \$2500. Baggage delay (24 hours or more) up to \$250 reimbursement, and death or dismemberment benefit \$25,000 max.

We encourage the purchase of the travel protection plan. You can protect your travel investment at a very affordable group rate – take peace of mind with you when you travel. Cover your vacation investment, your belongings, and most importantly, you. The Durgan Travel Service Travel Protection Plan is your ticket to worry-free travel. Before you purchase travel insurance, we recommend that you carefully review the plan information. Please Note: Plan benefits, limits, and provisions may vary by state jurisdiction. To review full plan details online, go to: www.tripmate.com/wpTPG02. **This plan is underwritten by:** United States Fire Insurance Company, Eatontown, NJ. Benefits are administered by: Trip Mate, Inc.*, 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, MO, 64114, 1-800-888-7292 (*in CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency).

TRIP DEVIATIONS: Any request for tour deviation will be subject to availability at the time of booking. The *maximum* extension permitted is 10 - 14 days, depending on the airline. A deviation form, along with the surcharge fee of \$150 to change the air (additional \$100 for land arrangements), must be submitted at the time of initial payment, but will be accepted up to 120 days prior to departure. After processing the request, any additional deviation expenses (car rental, train, hotel, etc.) must be paid, in full, to the Retail Department of Durgan Travel Service at the time of reservation. Download form from www.durgantravel.com or contact Durgan Travel at Toll Free 1-800-234-9959 to request a deviation form.

RESPONSIBILITY: Durgan Travel Service and their agents, in accepting bookings for this tour, clearly stipulate that they are not liable for faults or defaults of other companies and persons that may be used in the carrying-out of the tour services, also for accidents, baggage losses, delays, or cancellations, strikes, political unrest, riots, and acts of God and war, and changes in schedules. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable, for the comfort or well-being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary or arrangements, such alterations may be made without penalty to the operator. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the passengers. The right is reserved to withdraw the tour due to insufficient participation or for any reason whatsoever; also to decline to accept or to retain any person as members of the tour. The airlines and bus lines concerned are not to be held responsible for any acts, omissions, or events during the time the passengers are not onboard. The pass contract in use by the airlines or bus companies concerned constitutes the sole contract between the company and purchase of this tour and/or passengers. The issuance and acceptance of receipt tickets and/or tour membership coupons, along with making the initial deposit, shall be deemed to be consent to and acceptance of the foregoing terms and conditions.

GRAND TOUR OF SICILY WITH AEOLIAN ISLANDS/Promo/ml/rd

Departure dates:

March & November \$TBA (credit card)/\$TBA (cash/check)

April, Early May & October at \$TBA (credit card)/\$TBA (cash/check)

For more information, please contact:

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