

Malta & Sicily

Islands of the Ancient Mediterranean

Inspiring Moments

- Take in the stately medieval and baroque architecture along the intimate streets of **Valletta,** Malta's compact capital.
- Appreciate the glorious ruins of Sicily's renowned ancient cities of **Agrigento** and **Syracuse.**
- Delve into Roman aristocratic life through the spectacular, world-class mosaics of Villa Romana del Casale.
- Behold the intriguing Neolithic temples of Hagar Qim and Ggantija, older than the Great Pyramids and Stonehenge.
- Feel transported through time within the beautiful and colorful Maltese towns of Mdina and Rabat.
- Savor the breathtaking scenery and chic ambience of **Taormina**, Sicily's celebrated resort town perched on a hilltop.
- Experience six UNESCO World Heritage sites.



Itinerary

Day 1	Depart gateway city 🛟
Day 2	Arrive in Malta and transfer 3 to hotel in Sliema
Day 3	Valletta
Day 4	Mdina Rabat Hagar Qim
Day 5	Ggantija Victoria Xwejni Bay
Day 6	Sliema Embark ferry Pozzallo Piazza Armerina Taormina
Day 7	Taormina
Day 8	Syracuse

Day 9 AgrigentoDay 10 Taormina

Day 11 Transfer To Catania airport and depart for gateway city

Flights 🗘 and transfers 🔾 provided for AHI FlexAir participants. **Note:** Itinerary may change due to local conditions.

Included Features

Accommodations (with baggage handling)

- -4 nights in Sliema, Malta, at the first-class AX The Palace.
- -5 nights in Taormina, Italy, at the first-class Eurostars Monte Tauro.

Transfers (with baggage handling)

 All transfers during the Land Program: ferries and deluxe motor coaches.

Extensive Meal Program

- 9 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 3 dinners, including Welcome and Farewell Dinners; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- -Small group: Sized just right at 28 quests.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- AHI Connects | Local immersion.
- Electives and free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- AHI Sustainability Promise | Striving to make a positive impact wherever we travel.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- -Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.

Above: Gozo, Malta

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A World of Discovery

Get great tips and techniques for preparing tasty Sicilian pizza during a demonstration.

Valletta. Spanning almost 8,000 years, Malta's rich history includes periods of rule by the Phoenicians, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, the Order of St. John and the British, among others. On a guided walk, delight in its majestic, fortified capital. See stunning views of the Grand Harbor from the Upper Barrakka Gardens, visit the glittering St. John's Co-Cathedral and tour stately Casa Rocca Piccola, a 16th-century palace.

Mdina, Rabat & Hagar Qim. In Malta's ancient walled capital, Mdina, see the regal city gate and stroll down charming, narrow lanes to admire the homes of Malta's noble families and St. Paul's Cathedral. See the landmarks of nearby Rabat and visit Domus Romana, a museum on the site of a Roman house, featuring mosaic floors and artifacts. Next, on the southern coast, marvel at the impressive Hagar Qim temples, built more than 5,500 years ago with massive stones.

Island of Gozo. On this scenic island in the Maltese archipelago, ponder some of the oldest free-standing stone structures in the world at the Neolithic Ggantija Temples. Then, go inside the picturesque, hilltop Cittadella in Victoria, the island's capital, on a walking tour. Later, see the patchwork pattern of rock-cut salt pans along Gozo's Xwejni Bay, and learn how a local family harvests the sea salt, a tradition that dates to Phoenician and Roman times.

Sicily's Mosaic Masterpieces. In Piazza Armerina, visit the Villa Romana del Casale, a fourth-century villa adorned with some of the world's finest Roman mosaics. Study more than 40 floors impeccably crafted with scenes of wild animals, hunting, myths, female athletes, domestic life and more.

Taormina. See the historic medieval center of this lovely resort town with your guide, and visit its Greek theater, which features stellar views of the sea and Mount Etna.

Syracuse. Visit the Archaeological Park to view remarkable ruins of this onetime Greek colony founded in 734 B.C. Take in the expansive Greek theater; the Latomia del Paradiso, a former limestone quarry; and the Ear of Dionysius, a cave famed for its

contd.

ACTIVE TRAVEL 👯

Excursions on this program require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and uneven surfaces
- -getting on and off motor coaches
- walking on steep inclines/declines and up and down stairs



Temple of Concordia

acoustics. Head next to Ortygia, Syracuse's atmospheric old town. Admire the baroque beauty of this tiny island on a walk and go inside the splendid Cathedral of Syracuse.

Agrigento's Valley of the Temples. Revel in magnificent Doric temples that attest to the glory of ancient Agrigento, founded by the Greeks in the sixth century. View the Temples of Concordia, Juno, Hercules and others with insights from your guide.

Enrichment

- History of Malta
- Sicilian Culture and Traditions

UNESCO World Heritage

- 1. The City of Valletta, Malta
- 2. Megalithic Temples of Malta
- 3. Late Baroque Towns, Val di Noto, Italy
- 4. Villa Romana del Casale, Italy
- 5. Syracuse, Italy
- 6. Archaeological Area of Agrigento, Italy

Telectives | Go further afield

Mount Etna. Relish a thrilling perspective of Europe's highest active volcano on a scenic, winding drive. Walk around the crater, learn about this UNESCO World Heritage site's geology and history, and enjoy lunch after.

{At an additional cost.}

Accommodations

AX The Palace | Sliema

Eurostars Monte Tauro | Taormina

Tripadvisor



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Ortvoia

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2025 Departures & Pricing

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*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by expiration date on website and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person.

VAT & port tax supplement are 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 \$1,495 (limited availability)

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