

Sicily with Friends



Wine Tour 2020 Itinerary



Thursday - June 25, 2020

Depart from US

Friday - June 26, 2020 - WELCOME TO SICILY

Transfers to Castellammare del Golfo. (based on our tour dates)

After arriving into your accommodations where you will have time to relax and unwind. Later this evening we will have a Welcome Party with hors d'oeuvres, music, and a specialty drink. Then you may explore this fascinating town on your own.

Included Meals: Hors d'oeuvres at Welcome Party

Saturday - June 27, 2020

Beach - Belvedere - Cusumano Winery & Wine Tasting - Scopello Village - Unforgettable Dinner at La Terrazza

This morning we will meet at 9:00 am to spend a beautiful day at La Playa beach with stunning crystal-clear waters. (lounge chairs and umbrellas are included). You may choose from 2 departures 1 pm or 5 pm to return to Castellammare to your accommodation in town. This evening we will embark on a very special sightseeing tour of this amazing coastline of the Mediterranean Sea to La Tonnara di Scopello for a photo opportunity (where Ocean 11 was filmed). This afternoon we will depart for this Private family owned Cusumano Winery tour. The Cusumano brothers Alberto and Diego took over the management from their father, Francesco in 2001. The family owns 400 hectares (nearly 1000 acres) of vineyards across seven holdings throughout Sicily, and today they distribute to more than 60 countries. They are part of the Terlato Wines, the leading marketer of luxury wines in the United State. This western part of Sicily is blessed with ample sunlight and moderate warm weather that offers some of the best growing condition of the region. The white wines offer a crisp and fresh flavor, while red wines will be more intense and powerful but still elegant. An expert of their team will explain their process and then we will have the chance to taste some of their best-known wines in their original Winery in Partinico, (which is the family pride and joy) located in a 19th century "baglio". We will taste Cusumano's best known wine "Noa" a blend of Nero d'Avola, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon grapes. This was the first wine to receive a "Tre Bicchieri Award" on its very first vintage. After the wine tour we will drive through this magnificent sightseeing of the coastline of the Mediterranean Sea to stop at the Belvedere for a photo opportunity and enjoy this breathtaking view of the Golf. Then we will continue to this ancient little village of Scopello, located on a red cliff overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, and the Faraglioni of Scopello where Ocean 11 was filmed. We will enjoy a short walk through the 17th century

Baglio to discover this hidden gem restaurant, where we will enjoy an unforgettable dinner with impressive views and a memorable sunset

Included Meals: Breakfast. Dinner

Sunday - June 28, 2020

Palermo – Monreale

This morning at 9 am you will meet our English-speaking local tour guide for a sightseeing tour of Palermo the capital of Sicily. Your stops will include: Palermo Cathedral, Casa Professa, Quattro Canti, Piazza Pretoria (where the famous fashion show of Dolce and Gabbana was held), Chiesa Martorana, Mercato del Capo, Teatro Politeama, and Teatro Massimo, one of the largest stage in Europe and the famed opera houses. (Some entrance fee may apply). Lunch will be served outside this beautiful Piazza Bellini. After lunch the bus will head to this unique cathedral of Monreale which is all gold mosaic and named one of the UNESCO WORLD Heritage Sites. Back to Castellammare, and this evening is at your leisure for you to explore.

Included Meals: Breakfast. Lunch

Monday - June 29, 2020

Stemmari Winery and Wine Tasting

This morning at 9 am you may choose to join us on an exclusive private tour of this prestigious Stemmari Winery of Feudo Arancio. This magnificent Winery has a courtyard known as “Baglio” and is equipped with the best wine making technology and tools. They cultivate their own vineyards along the ventilated and sunny Northern Coast of Sicily. They produce seven hundred hectares of healthy vineyards. A team of agronomist and oenologist constantly follow the all evolving process of their wines to produce the best quality wines, which are rich, intense, but also harmonious and elegant. One of their wine experts will explain the production while overlooking this amazing extension of vineyards before having the pleasure of tasting their excellent wines accompanied with farm made local cheeses. We will return to Castellammare and you have the option to remain in town or join the group at La Play beach. We will return at 5pm to your accommodations. The evening is at your leisure.

Also available on this day (Optional Evening Excursion)

Sicilian Farmhouse Dinner (\$75 per person)

A scenic drive will take us through the Sicilian countryside for this authentic farm to table experience where we will enjoy homemade specialties and wines.

Tuesday - June 30, 2020

Tour of Erice - Le Saline - Marsala Winery with Wine Tasting

Departure at 9:00 am for this special sightseeing tour of Erice. This medieval town sits 2400 meters above sea level. Enjoy the views of the Tyrrhenian Sea from the hilltop and explore Erice’s charming medieval streets and square and pleasure your palate with traditional Sicilian desserts where you will have the opportunity to purchase local souvenirs and enjoy lunch on your own. After lunch in Erice we will travel along the coastline of Marsala where lies this evocative landscape of Le Saline (shallow salt pools) and decommissioned mulini (windmills). The salt from these marshes is considered Italy’s finest. We will continue toward the town of Marsala where we will tour this magnificent eighteen

century Winery which will leave you speechless. The English guided tour will take us through this journey that will begin in front of this majestic giant wine barrels, build at the end of the nineteenth century and still used for the refinement of Marsala. We will walk beneath 104 stone arches through the barrel vaults to see over 2000 small and large barrels of wine. After the tour we will reach the grandiose and elegant tasting room, where we will taste a range of their best wines paired with authentic gastronomic nibbles Back to Castellammare. This evening we will meet for dinner at this authentic local restaurant with a beautiful view of the marina, while we savor a delicious Sicilian 3 course meal with local wines included.

Included Meals: Breakfast. Dinner with wine

Wednesday - July 1, 2020

All Day Mini Cruise

We will meet at 9am at the marina for a spectacular mini Cruise along the northwestern coastline of Sicily. You will have the opportunity to jump off the boat and swim at Scopello, and into the caves of Lo Zingaro Riserva Naturale. Scopello is famous for it's vertiginous "Faraglioni" or rock formation, where Hollywood filmed Ocean Eleven, and for one of the most ancient tuna fisheries in Sicily. Our next stop is San Vito lo Capo you will have the opportunity for swimming, lunch, shopping and exploring. San Vito lo Capo is considered one of the most beautiful beaches in Europe, it is a bay of soft white sand, lapped by crystal clear, turquoise water. (Weather permitting). Back to Castellammare at 6pm. Your evening is at your leisure.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Thursday - July 2, 2020

Tour of Segesta Temple - Beach Day - White Party

This morning the bus will depart at 9:00 am for Segesta to tour one of the best-preserved ancient Greek temple in the world, (even better than those in Greece itself) The English-speaking tour guide will explain the history of this Greek temple. The Segesta Archaeological Park is home to spectacular ancient ruins dating from Magna Grecia. The tour includes: the main temple, built in the 5th century B.C. and one of the best-preserved examples of Doric architecture in the world and the fourth-century BC Greek theater. After the tour you have the option to return to Castellammare or join the group at La Play beach. Then we will return at 5pm to your accommodations. This evening at 7:30 pm be ready dressed in white to depart for our Farewell White Party. This party will be on the beach and will include heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine, specialty drinks, alcoholic or non, DJ, professional photographer and for the grand finally fantastic fireworks.

Included Meals: Breakfast. Dinner with wine

Friday - July 3, 2020

Free Day

This morning is free for you to go around town, purchase souvenirs and pack your bags for an ARRIVEDERCI a Presto.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Also available on this day (Optional All-Day Excursion)

Favignana (\$75 per person)

After breakfast we will head to Trapani to board a ferry to reach Favignana. The larger and most important of the Aegadian Islands, also called “La Farfalla” for its butterfly shape. You will have the opportunity to explore this small paradise island with stunning beaches, crystal clear waters and breathtaking views. Walking through this charming fisherman village founded in the seventeenth century, you may visit the Palazzo Florio the most known building in the island, an Ancient Tonnara (tuna factory) which today is a museum of several historical finding, Villa Margherita, and Santa Caterina Castel. You will have the opportunity to swim in one of the splendid sea coves of the island. The most known is Cala Rossa (where the little boats look like they are floating in the air) and Cala Azzurra (for its sandy white beach). This is an ideal place to take children to visit. Enjoy lunch at the many local restaurants and savor the local granita and gelatos. While on the island you may purchase last minute souvenirs and rent scooter or even bicycles to explore this beautiful island. Return back to Castellammare to finish packing and enjoy your last night in town.

Saturday - July 4, 2020 – CIAO CIAO

Transfers to the airport (based on departure times)

Depart to the US

NB: Excursions and itinerary are weather permitted and subject to change without prior notice. Minimum number is required.

NNB: We are not a business we are friends traveling with friends. We love to share our Sicily with you. In order to secure low rates. we prepay everything a year in advance and we cannot refund your payment under any circumstance.

2020 Prices

\$1599 per person

Land Only Price: Air Fare not included

Single occupancy: \$500 surcharge

(A 2.9%fee will be charged on debit/ credit card payments. If you would like to pay by cash or check. please email us at info@sicilywithfriends.com to make arrangements.)

****All payments are non-refundable****

