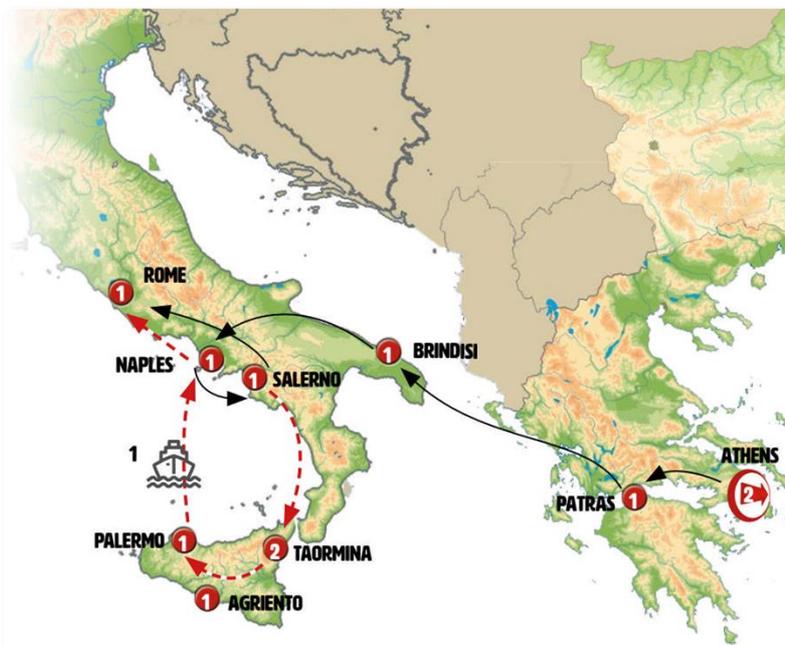


Athens, Peninsula and Complete Sicily / ID:2606521 / 13 Days

ATHENS - PATRAS - BRINDISI - NAPLES - SALERNO - TAORMINA - AGRIENTO - PALERMO - PALERMO - NAPLES FERRY - ROME

DEPARTURES DATES: **Wednesday all year**

Apr.26: 08, 22
 May.26: 13, 27
 Jun.26: 10, 24
 Jul.26: **08, 22**
 Aug.26: **12, 26**
 Sep.26: 09, 23
 Oct.26: 07, 21
 Nov.26: **04, 18**
 Jan.27: 06, 27
 Feb.27: 10, 24
 Mar.27: 10, **24**



PRICES PER PERSON

Seasons	DBL	SINGLE
High Season	€2464	€3332
<u>Middle Season</u>	€2656	€3524
Low Season	€2307	€3175

Season: Unique , High , Middle , Low , *Extra S., Currency: €

ITINERARY

DAY 01 WED. Athens .-

Welcome to your tour. We'll **transfer** you to the hotel and you'll have some free time. In the afternoon, you'll find information about the start of your tour on the boards located at the hotel reception.

DAY 02 THU. Athens .-

We'll embark on a **city tour of Athens** with a local guide, visiting landmarks such as the Presidential Mansion, the Panathenaic Stadium where the first modern Olympic Games were held, the National Library, and the bustling squares of the city center. We'll also explore the newer neighborhoods that developed after the 2004 Olympic Games. The tour will conclude at the Acropolis (admission not included). In the evening, we'll provide a **transfer to the historical neighborhood of Plaka**, renowned for its charming Greek tavernas and opportunities to immerse yourself in the rich folklore of this country.

DAY 03 FRI. Athens - Tripoli - Olympia - Patras .-

We'll travel to the Peloponnese, making a brief stop at the Corinth Canal, an impressive engineering marvel from the late nineteenth century. Continuing through the mountains, we'll reach **Tripoli**, the capital of the Arcadia region. Here, we'll take a break to explore the bustling Aeros Square, known for its cafes and restaurants. Our journey will then take us to **Olympia**, where we'll visit the **Archaeological Site** with a local guide (tickets included). The first Olympic Games were held here in 776 B.C., attracting athletes from all over Greece and its colonies. Highlights of the site include the Temple of Zeus, the Stadium, the Gymnasium, and the Arena. Next, we'll proceed to **Patras**, the third largest city in Greece, with a remarkable medieval fortress and the largest cathedral in the country. Adjacent to the cathedral is the small church of St. Andrew, a significant place of pilgrimage. **Dinner will be included.**

DAY 04 SAT. Patras - Igoumenitsa - Igoumenitsa - Brindisi Ferry - Brindisi .-

After breakfast, we'll cross the Rio Antirrio Bridge, a spectacular suspension bridge that connects the Peloponnese with the Greek mainland. We'll travel through the regions of Central Greece and Epirus. Upon arrival in **Igoumenitsa**, a port town, there will be time for a stroll before boarding the modern ferry at 02:00 p.m. to sail across the Ionian Sea to **Italy**. We'll reach **Brindisi** by the end of the day, around 09:00 p.m., where we'll spend the night.

DAY 05 SUN. Brindisi - Alberobello - Matera - Naples .-

Today, we'll visit two extraordinary and authentic towns. Our first stop will be **Alberobello**, famous for its unique conical-shaped houses known as trulli. These distinctive structures, with their stacked stone roofs, are a UNESCO World Heritage Site and represent a remarkable example of Italian rural architecture. Next, we'll head to **Matera**, located in the Basilicata region, renowned for its ancient historic center and the Sassi di Matera a complex of ancient dwellings and buildings carved into the rock, dating back thousands of years. Not only is it a World Heritage Site, but also one of the oldest continuously inhabited human settlements in the world. In the afternoon, after enjoying an included lunch in Matera, we'll continue our journey through Basilicata and Campania, taking in the beautiful mountain landscapes. We'll arrive in **Naples** by evening, where you'll have free time to explore.

DAY 06 MON. Naples - Capri - Sorrento - Salerno .-

After breakfast, we'll head to the port of **Naples** to board a ferry to the **Island of Capri**, where we recommend taking the funicular up to Capri town to stroll around and enjoy the stunning views. After lunch, we'll reboard and head to **Sorrento**, a charming tourist town nestled at the base of a cliff, where you'll have free time to wander. Our journey will then take us to the Gulf of Salerno, where we'll stay in the city of Salerno.

DAY 07 TUE. Salerno - Paola - Mesina - Taormina .-

We'll journey to the south of the boot, marveling at the stunning southern Italian scenery as we cross the Cilento National Park. We'll arrive in **Paola**, located on the shores of the Tyrrhenian Sea, where we'll visit the **Sanctuary of St. Francis of Paola** and enjoy free time for lunch in its charming historic center. Our adventure will then take us to **Villa San Giovanni**, where we'll board a **short ferry crossing** to the island of Sicily. Upon arrival in **Messina**, we'll have time to stroll around the cathedral. Finally, we'll continue to **Taormina**. **Dinner will be included.**

***Note:** Accommodation will normally be in the Taormina region, but on certain dates, lodging may be provided in Messina.*

DAY 08 WED. Taormina .-

At the foot of Mount Etna lies the enchanting city of **Taormina**, once described by Churchill as the most beautiful place on earth. You'll have time to explore the lively historic quarter, with its Greek theater dominating the mesmerizing landscape. You can also relax on the beach. **Dinner will be included.**

DAY 09 THU. Taormina - Catania - Syracuse - Agrigento .-

After breakfast, we will head to **CATANIA**, at the foot of Mount Etna, a city that combines history, art, and Mediterranean life. Its Baroque center, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site, impresses with beautiful squares and palaces, as well as the bustling fish market, one of the most picturesque in Sicily.

Afterwards, we continue to **SYRACUSE**, an ancient city of Magna Graecia on the Ionian Sea. The city has also been declared a World Heritage Site; its island of Ortigia, connected by bridges, is the oldest part of town, with lively narrow streets, the cathedral, the ancient castle, seaside terraces, and markets. Free time to stroll and have lunch. In the afternoon, we will travel inland toward **AGRIGENTO**. Before reaching the hotel, from the coach, we will admire the magnificent complex of the Valley of the Temples. Dinner included.

DAY 10 FRI. Agrigento - Marsala - Erice - Palermo .-

We'll visit the **Valley of the Temples** with a **local guide**, an impressive archaeological site known as the most complete complex of Greek temples (admission included). Then, we'll travel to **Marsala**, a historic city renowned for its vibrant atmosphere and famous wine, where we'll have time for lunch. Our journey will continue around the scenic Marsala salt pans to **Erice**, a charming Phoenician town overlooking the sea, perfect for a leisurely stroll. Finally, we'll head to **Palermo**. **Dinner will be included.**

DAY 11 SAT. Palermo - Monreale - Palermo - Naples Ferry .-

After breakfast, we'll explore **Palermo**, starting with a transfer to the picturesque village of **Monreale**, now on the outskirts of the city. We'll visit the breathtaking **Arab-Norman cathedral**, a World Heritage Site famed for its magnificent golden mosaics (tickets included). **Palermo** is a city rich in contrasts, reflecting the history of Arabs, Normans, and Baroque splendor. Key sights include the **Cathedral** (tickets included) and the Norman Palace, featuring the exquisite Palatine Chapel. After our tour, we'll enjoy some free time. Later in the afternoon, we'll board a modern **night ferry**. Accommodation will be in double cabins with en suite bathrooms.

DAY 12 SUN. Palermo - Naples Ferry - Naples - Pompeii - Rome .-

We'll arrive in Naples early in the morning (breakfast not included) and continue to **Pompeii**, where we'll admire the remains of this ancient Roman city, buried under the ashes of Mount Vesuvius. A **local guide** will accompany us (tickets and tour are included). Afterward, we'll explore **Naples**, one of the most fascinating cities in **Italy** and among the oldest populated places in Europe. The historic center of Naples, one of the largest in Europe, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There will be time for a stroll and lunch. We'll conclude our day with an arrival in

DAY 13 MON. Rome .-

After breakfast, our journey will come to an end, leaving you with wonderful lasting memories.

PRICE INCLUDES

- Travel by bus with English speaking guide, basic travel insurance and breakfast buffet.

- Includes arrival transfer
- City tour in : Athens, Agrigento, Palermo, Pompeii.
- Evening Transfer: Plaka neighborhood in Athens.
- Transfer: Monreale in Palermo.
- Ticket admission: archaeological site of Olympia with guided tour, Entrance and visit to the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento, Palermo cathedral, Monreale cathedral, Pompey.
- Train: Caltagirone.
- Ferry: Igumenitsa (GR) / Brindisi (IT), Naples/ Capri/ Sorrento, San Giovanni / Messina in Sicily, Palermo/ Naples.
- 6 Lunch or Dinner Included in: Patras, Matera, Taormina, Taormina, Agrigento, Palermo.

Planned Hotels

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