

Western Sicily from the coastal side- 7 nights

Day 1 ARRIVAL PALERMO AIRPORT

Overnight Palermo area

Arrival at Palermo airport and private transfer to your Hotel in Palermo area

Day 2 PALERMO CULTURE

Overnight Palermo area



Meet the driver, the guide and start of the tour. Palermo, the capital city of Sicily, offers a glimpse into its rich history, vibrant culture, and architectural marvels. Palermo boasts several impressive churches and monuments as the Cathedral of Palermo, the Church of San Cataldo the

Quattro Canti, the Royal Palace, the Martorana Church, Piazza Pretoria with its magnificent fountain.

Climbing the steps of the Monastery of Santa Caterina, located in front of the Church of Santa Maria dell'Ammiraglio (Martorana), you face a choice: ascend to the Monastery's rooftops for a panoramic view of Palermo, or descend into the hidden "secret" confectionery of the nuns. A cloistered order, the nuns keep their sweet creations secret from the world—delicacies like cannoli filled with fresh ricotta, Buccellati (shortcrust biscuits with dried figs, almonds, and jam), and almond paste biscuits. In the cloister, a peaceful green oasis, you can admire the intricate majolica floors and the rooms where nuns once lived.

Let's continue your journey to the Sicilian Puppet Theater, recognized by UNESCO as a masterpiece of oral and intangible heritage.



The puppet shows, which began in the mid-19th century, depict tales of bandits, saints, and the legendary Paladins of France, conveying values such as chivalry, honor, and the defense of the weak.

Meet the driver and the guide for a half day tour to Monreale.

Upon arrival, a stroll through the charming streets will lead you to the crown jewel of Monreale: its magnificent Cathedral. Before exploring the Cathedral, a visit to a local mosaic workshop provides a unique opportunity to witness the age-old craft in action. Here, under the guidance of a Master artisan, you can observe the meticulous process of mosaic making and even try your hand at cutting tesserae, feeling the thrill of bringing ancient techniques to life.



Now is time to step inside the Cathedral: here you'll be met with a dazzling display of the Byzantine mosaics that adorn every inch of the interior.

These intricate artworks depict biblical scenes, saints, and symbolic motifs, each tessera meticulously placed to create a mesmerizing tapestry of color and form.

The guided tour of the Cathedral offers insight into the history and significance of these masterpieces, shedding light on the artisans who dedicated their lives to their creation.



From the grandeur of the nave to the intimate chapels, every corner holds a treasure waiting to be discovered.

Lunch in a typical restaurant

Free afternoon for shopping in the city centre.





Departure from Trapani towards Palermo through Segesta and Piana degli Albanesi.

Inside the archaeological park of Segesta there is a Doric style temple and a theater from the Hellenistic age, partly dug into the rock of the hill. Other excavations have brought to light a Hellenistic-Roman town and a medieval village.

Set in a scenic location, it offers a fascinating glimpse into Sicily's ancient history, with stunning views of surrounding landscapes.



Continue towards Piana degli Albanesi.

Located on the edge of a mountain, overlooking the lake of the same name, Piana degli Albanesi is a charming town known for its rich Albanian heritage. Founded by Albanian refugees fleeing the Ottoman advance in the 15th century, it preserves its unique culture, language, and traditions.

The town is famous for its beautiful churches, including the Church of San Giorgio, and its picturesque surroundings, including the nearby lake. Piana degli Albanesi is also renowned for its delicious local cuisine, particularly the famous almond-based

pastries, olive oil and ricotta cheese used to fill the cannoli, which are considered among the best in the region.



Another distinctive element is the practice of the Byzantine rite, which is reflected in the architecture and sacred art of its churches. During Easter's Holy Week, the heartfelt Byzantine celebrations take place, with locals participating in traditional Albanian costumes, which are also displayed in the Museum of Arbëreshe Culture.





A boat excursion from Castellammare del Golfo to San Vito Lo Capo and the Zingaro Nature Reserve is an unforgettable journey along one of Sicily's most breathtaking stretches of coastline.

As you sail, you'll admire the rugged cliffs, hidden caves, and vibrant Mediterranean vegetation that make this area so unique.

The Zingaro Reserve, with its untouched beauty, offers a glimpse of pristine nature, while San Vito Lo Capo enchants with its golden sandy beaches and turquoise waters.



Along the way, the boat stops for a refreshing swim, giving you the chance to dive into crystal-clear waters and fully immerse yourself in the charm of this coastal paradise. Perfect for nature lovers and those seeking a day of relaxation and discovery. Lunch with local products included.



Today will be dedicated to exploring Marsala and its surroundings.

Marsala is a historic town in western Sicily, famous for its rich winemaking tradition, particularly the fortified Marsala wine. With its charming old town, beautiful beaches, and proximity to archaeological sites, it offers a blend of culture, history, and natural beauty.

Lunch and a wine tasting including the Marsala wine is organized for you.

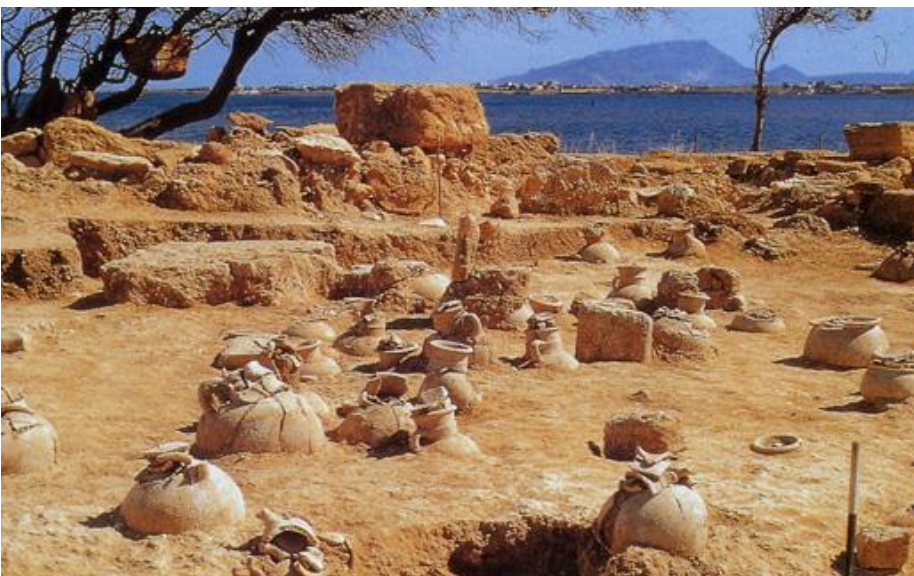
After this culinary experience the day will continue at Mothia, a small island located in the Stagnone Lagoon.

You will take the ferry with a scenic ride across the calm waters of the Stagnone Lagoon. As you depart from the mainland near Marsala, you'll have panoramic views of the surrounding coastline, salt marshes, and nearby islands, creating a tranquil and picturesque setting.

Mothia was originally a Phoenician settlement founded in the 8th century BCE and became an important trading center for a long time.



The island was eventually abandoned and rediscovered in the 19th century by Joseph Whitaker, who conducted extensive archaeological excavations.



The island of Mothia is known for its archaeological site with remains of a Phoenician settlement, including a well-preserved city grid, houses, a temple, and a unique Tophet (a sacred area).

Return to the Hotel in Castellammare del Golfo, dinner and overnight.

Visit of Sciacca and the coral workshops.

Sciacca is a picturesque town located on the southwestern coast of Sicily, Italy. Known for its spectacular sea views, Sciacca is also famous for its thermal baths, historical architecture, and vibrant cultural heritage. The town overlooks the Mediterranean Sea, offering stunning landscapes and rich marine biodiversity.

One of the distinctive aspects of Sciacca is its tradition related to fishing and coral processing. The area has historically been known for the fishing of red coral, a valuable material used in jewelry and crafts. The Mediterranean coral is of the species *Corallium Rubrum* and grows at depths of 50 to 200 meters. It has unique characteristics that set it apart from all other corals: its coloration varies from intense orange to pale salmon-pink, often marked with brownish and sometimes black spots, which testify to and certify its volcanic origin.



Sciacca coral has unique origins in the world, as it comes from Ferdinanda Island, a submerged island in the Sicilian Channel, located between Sciacca and Pantelleria. Lunch in typical restaurant.

Located in the heart of the town, the museum showcases exquisite coral jewelry, sculptures, and artifacts, highlighting the unique Sciacca coral, known for its vibrant orange-pink hue.

Visitors can learn about the ecological and cultural significance of coral, as well as the traditional techniques used by local artisans to create stunning pieces!



Check out the room, meet the driver and transfer to Palermo airport.