

Day 1: Wednesday, Oct 17th ~ Boston

Depart this evening (9:50 PM) from Logan International Airport for your overnight flight to Malta via (via Rome) to arrive at 6:00 PM on Oct 18th.

Day 2: Thursday, Oct 18th ~ The island of Malta

Arrive at Malta International Airport in Valletta where we will be met by our Tour Escort who will assist with our transfer. Board our private motor coach for the drive to the resort area of St. Julian's for check-in at our hotel. The remainder of the day is free to familiarize ourselves with our surroundings. "Welcome Drink" upon arrival. Dinner (wine and mineral water included with all dinners) and overnight at our hotel. (Dinner)

Your accommodations from 10/18 to 10/23:

Suncrest Hotel

Dawret il-Qawra

St Paul's Bay, SPB 1902, Malta

+356 2157 7101

Amenities Include: Free WI-FI, hairdryer, a/c, outdoor & swimming pool

Day 3: Friday, Oct 19th ~ Valletta

Breakfast at our hotel. Today we will embark on a guided sightseeing tour through the bustling street of Malta's capital city of Valletta, including a visit to the upper Barracca Gardens and to the home of the Knights of Malta, St. John's Co-Cathedral. Next, we will tour the Palace of the Grand Masters including a visit to the rooms of State. The rest of the day is free at leisure to enjoy on our own. Return to our hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 4: Saturday, Oct 20th ~ The island of Gozo

Following breakfast at our hotel, we embark on a 20-minute ferry ride to Malta's sister island of Gozo. Upon arriving on Gozo, you will immediately notice that although both islands are similar in history and development, Gozo is significantly greener than Malta. Our guided tour of Gozo begins with a visit to the Megalithic Temples of Ggantija and Calypso's Cave, after which we will tour the citadel, known as the Gran Castello, in Victoria, the capital city of Gozo. Free time for lunch, and then we will return on the ferry and have the rest of the day free at leisure. Dinner at our hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 5: Sunday, Oct 21st ~ Mdina - Rabat

After breakfast at our hotel, we are off on a guided sightseeing tour of the Old Capital of Mdina, also known as the "Silent City". Our tour includes a visit to the Cathedral, built by Lorenzo Gafà in 1702, as well as a walk around the imposing city bastions. Our tour then moves to Rabat to visit St. Catald Catacombs, a Roman Villa, Dingli Cliffs, and San Anton Botanic Gardens. Later, we will return to our hotel for time at leisure prior to dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 6: Monday, Oct 22nd ~ Vittoriosa

Breakfast at our hotel. This morning, we will have a guided sightseeing tour of Vittoriosa, the first home of the Knights of St. John and where the Great Siege of 1565 took place. Our group will stroll through the winding alleys, past many historic landmarks to the Inquisitor's Palace and the Church of St. Lawrence. After a stop for lunch (on our own) and a short cruise on a 'Dghajsa', we will return to our hotel for leisure time prior to dinner. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 7: Tuesday, Oct 23rd ~ Malta - Pozzallo - Siracusa - Taormina

This morning we have an early hotel check-out when we will be given a boxed breakfast. Transfer to the pier to board the (6:30 a.m.) ferry to Pozzallo, Sicily. We arrive in Sicily this morning where we will board our motor coach for the drive to Taormina. On our way, we will stop for a visit to Siracusa where we will have a guided sightseeing tour of the Archaeological Excavations. Pizza lunch included while in Siracusa. Then, proceed to Taormina for check-in at our hotel. Dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

your accommodations from 10/23 to 10/28:

Hotel Ariston

Via Bagnoli Croci, 168

98039 Taormina ME, Italy

+39 041 523 540

www.hotelaristontaormina.it

Free Wi-Fi, hairdryer, a/c outdoor pool

Approx Vat Tax per person per day payment to hotel 3.50 euro

Day 8: Wednesday, Oct 24th ~ Taormina

We enjoy breakfast at the hotel this morning before we join a local expert who will conduct a visit to the Greek and Roman Theater, situated on the slope of Monte Tauro. From here, we will experience a breathtaking view of the Sicilian landscape, especially Mt. Etna in the distance. The rest of the day is at leisure. Dinner and overnight at the hotel. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 9: Thursday, Oct 25th ~ Savoca - Forza D'Agro

After breakfast at our hotel, we board our motor coach for a tour of Savoca and Forza d'Agro where we will see the locations used in the filming of *The Godfather* movies including the wedding church and *Bar Vitelli*. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Return to the hotel for dinner and overnight. (Breakfast and dinner)

Day 10: Friday, Oct 26th ~ Catania - Mount Etna

Breakfast at our hotel. We will have a panoramic tour of the wonderful city of Catania, known for its straight streets and attractive buildings. In the afternoon, we will travel through the many varied vegetable and fruit areas on the slopes of Mount Etna before we arrive at an altitude of 2,500 feet, above the tree line. We will also enjoy a wonderful vintner's lunch with wine tasting in the Mount Etna-area. Return to our hotel for the afternoon at leisure, followed by dinner and overnight. (Breakfast, lunch and dinner)

DAY 11: Saturday, Oct 27th ~ Taormina

After breakfast, we'll enjoy a free day to relax or for individual sightseeing. Among your possibilities for the day, consider a visit to quaint Castelmola, situated above Taormina, or Taormina Mare, the beach area situated below town. Tonight we'll gather for a special farewell dinner to reminisce about our trip. (Breakfast and dinner)

DAY 12: Sunday, Oct 28th ~ Catania - Rome - Boston

After breakfast and hotel check-out, paying any incidentals that you may have incurred, we transfer to the airport in Catania to board our return Alitalia flight to Boston (*via Rome*) with full meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, available while in-flight. (Breakfast)

PLEASE NOTE: SCHEDULING IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE