



One visit is never enough!

Wine Tour 2024 Itinerary

Thursday - June 13, 2024

Departure from US

Friday - June 14, 2024

Welcome to Sicily

Transfer to Castellammare del Golfo. (Based on 3 arrival times)

Upon your arrival at the **Palermo Airport**, you will be greeted by your private driver, who will take you to your hotel in Castellammare del Golfo. After arriving at your accommodations, you will have time to relax and unwind. Later that afternoon we will take a stroll toward the main central gardens, where the town center lies with many shops, cafes, and restaurants. We will end this walking tour at the marina/harbor where we will enjoy a **Welcome Party** with hors d'oeuvres, and a specialty drink. Then you may explore this fascinating town on your own.

Included Meals: Hour D'oeuvres at Welcome Party

Saturday - June 15, 2024

La Playa beach - Belvedere – Scopello

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) Then after lunch (on your own)

we will return to our hotel to get ready for a very special sightseeing tour of this amazing coastline of the Mediterranean Sea to the **Belvedere** for a photo opportunity. Next, we will stroll through the village of **Scopello** where you will have time on your own to explore. We will return to Castellammare. Your evening is at your leisure.

Included Meals: Breakfast

Sunday, June 16, 2024

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, (second largest stages in Europe and the famed opera houses.) Some entrance fee may apply. After the tour you will have the opportunity on your own to try some typical Sicilian Street food. After lunch the bus will head to the unique cathedral of **Monreale** which is made with 2200 kg of pure gold Byzantine mosaic and named one of the UNESCO WORLD Heritage Sites. Back to Castellammare, this evening is at your leisure to explore.

Included Meals Breakfast

Monday June 17, 2024

Boat Excursion

We will meet at 9am (weather permitting) at the marina for a spectacular **Boat Excursion** 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 its vertiginous “Faraglioni” or rock formation, where Hollywood filmed Ocean eleven, and for one of the most ancient tuna fisheries in Sicily. Back to Castellammare at 1:30pm. Your evening is at your leisure.

Included Meals: Breakfast

(Optional Evening Excursion)

Farm to Table Dinner (\$125 per adult and \$75 per child)

This evening our driver will take us through the Sicilian countryside for this authentic **Farm To Table** experience where we will enjoy homemade specialties and some Sicilian wines. We will tour this organic farm and have dinner together in this beautiful setting.

Tuesday June 18, 2024

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

Departure at 9:00 am for a 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. Then the bus will take us along the coast 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 beautiful town of Marsala where we will tour this magnificent eighteen century **Florio Marsala Winery** which will leave you speechless. The English guided tour will take us through this journey that will begin in front of these majestic wine barrels, built at the end of the nineteen century and still used for the winery of Marsala. Then we will walk beneath 104 stone arches through the barrel vaults to see over 2000 small and large barrels of wine, to reach the grandiose and elegant tasting room, where we will taste a range of their best Marsala wines paired with authentic gastronomic nibbles. Back to Castellammare. This evening is at your leisure.

Included Meals: Breakfast,

Wednesday June 19, 2024

Stemmari Winery and Wine Tasting/ Farewell White Party

This morning at 9 am we will embark 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 agronomists and oenologists constantly follow all evolving processes 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 around lunch time and you have the option to remain in town or join the group at La Playa beach. We will return at 5 pm 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, Hors d'oeuvres at Farewell White Party with specialty drinks.

Thursday June 20, 2024

Tour of Segesta Temple - Cusumano Winery with Wine Tasting

This morning the bus will depart at 9:00 am for **Segesta** to tour one of the best-preserved ancient **Greek temples** 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 will return to Castellammare. Be ready for a 3:30pm departure for this Private family owned **Cusumano Winery**. 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 States. This western part of Sicily is blessed with ample sunlight and moderate warm weather that offers some of the best growing conditions of the region. 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”. 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 multi course meal with local wines included.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner with wine

Friday June 21, 2024

Departure to the US

Included Meals: Breakfast

Ciao Ciao

Transfers to the airport (based on departure times on the specified tour dates) Ciao Ciao

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

NNB: We love to share our Sicily with you. In order to secure low rates, we prepay everything a year in advance.

2024 Prices

\$1899 per person (double occupancy)
Single occupancy \$500 surcharge

You may upgrade to Oceanview for an additional \$300 per person, based on availability.
You may upgrade to a junior suite for an additional \$400 per person, based on availability.

Land only, Airfare not included in price.

Deposits are required at booking.

Please see *Terms & Conditions*

(A 2.9% fee will be charged on debit/credit card payments.)

One Visit is Never Enough!

Phone: (717) 903-0177/ Email: info@sicilywithfriends.com