



# Sicily for Solo Travelers

8 days | 11 days with Rome extension

Whether you're visiting Sicily for the history or the cuisine, the island has a rustic charm that sets it apart from mainland Italy. Experience the inimitable culture of the Mediterranean destination on this guided tour created for solo travelers. Along the way, meet like-minded travelers who also want to eat all the arancini their hearts desire (or their stomachs can handle).



## Your tour package includes

- 6 nights in a private room at handpicked hotels
- 6 breakfasts
- 1 lunch
- 3 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 cooking class
- 5 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

## Included highlights

- Cappella Palatina
- Monreale Cathedral
- Piazza Armerina
- Island of Ortygia
- Syracuse Cathedral
- Taormina's Greek theater
- Views of Mount Etna

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1.5 hours daily across uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and unpaved roads.

## Group size

15–28

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Palermo today.

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## Palermo → 2 nights

### Day 2: Arrival in Palermo

*Included meals: dinner*

Welcome to Italy! Settle in to your hotel. Then, gather with your Tour Director and fellow group members at a mixer before enjoying a welcome dinner.

### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Palermo & Monreale

*Included meals: breakfast*

This morning, embark on a guided tour of the bayside city of Palermo and the hilltop town of Monreale.

- Visit the architecturally diverse Palermo Cathedral and see the stunning artwork of the Cappella Palatina
- Head to nearby Monreale and enter Monreale Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site that combines Norman, Arab, and Byzantine architectural styles

Spend a free afternoon in Palermo or add an excursion.

+ Ancient Ruins of Segesta

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## Syracuse → 2 nights

### Day 4: Syracuse via Piazza Armerina

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

On the way to Syracuse, stop for a guided tour of Piazza Armerina and view the stunning mosaics in the UNESCO-listed Villa Romana del Casale.

After, continue on to Syracuse and sit down for an included dinner.

### Day 5: Cooking class & sightseeing tour of Syracuse

*Included meals: breakfast, lunch*

This morning, visit a local market to pick up fresh ingredients you'll use to cook an authentic Sicilian meal alongside a professional chef. Learn some tips and techniques before enjoying your creations during an included lunch with wine. Embark on a guided tour of Syracuse, a city known for its rich Greek history.

- Visit the Greek theater, the most complete ancient Greek theater still in existence
  - Tour the massive Paradise Quarry and gardens, featuring the cave that Caravaggio dubbed "The Ear of Dionysius" for its unique acoustics
  - Visit the Roman amphitheater, then cross a bridge to the Island of Ortigia to see the Temple of Apollo and Syracuse Cathedral
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## Taormina → 2 nights

### Day 6: Transfer to Taormina & sightseeing tour

*Included meals: breakfast*

Transfer to Taormina, where a local guide introduces you to this scenic town perched high above the sea.

- Stroll along the city's cobblestone streets to see Taormina Cathedral and Palazzo Corvaja, seat of the first Sicilian parliament
- Visit the town's 2nd-century Greek theater which, on clear days, offers panoramic vistas of Mount Etna

### Day 7: Free day in Taormina

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Spend a free day in Taormina or add an excursion.

Celebrate your trip at a farewell dinner featuring live music played by local musicians this evening.  
+ Museo Storico dello Sbarco & Historic Catania

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## Flight Home

### Day 8: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the Catania airport for your flight home or continue on to explore Rome.

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## + Rome extension

Have your sights on more art, history, and street life? Rome is sure to deliver. Only in the Italian capital can you sip cappuccino in front of the Pantheon and have an audience with the pope all in one morning. After a flight, admire the highlights during guided sightseeing.

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## Rome → 3 nights

### Day 8: Flight to Rome

*Included meals: breakfast*

Fly to Rome and spend a free evening in the Italian capital or add an excursion.

+ Rome Home-Hosted Dinner

### Day 9: Sightseeing tour of Rome

*Included meals: breakfast*

Follow in the footsteps of the ancient Romans on a guided tour of the Eternal City.

- Soak up over 2,000 years of history in Imperial Rome, viewing the Arch of Constantine and the Arch of Titus
- Enter the Colosseum, the largest amphitheater of the Roman Empire
- Stop at the ruins of the Forum, once the setting of parades, elections, and trials
- Pass by Palatine Hill to see Circus Maximus, the stadium where ancient Romans raced chariots, and the Baths of Caracalla

Spend a free afternoon in Rome or add an excursion.

+ Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs

### Day 10: Free day in Rome

*Included meals: breakfast*

Enjoy a free day in Rome or add excursions. This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Iconic Sights: Vatican City

+ Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

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## Flight Home

### Day 11: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.ca/S16](https://goaheadtours.ca/S16) | 1-800-754-5066

## Day 3: Ancient Ruins of Segesta

\$119CAD/\$129CAD\* (5 hours, departs in the afternoon)

Journey west from Palermo to visit the ancient ruins of Segesta. During the guided tour, you'll learn about the indigenous Elymians who lived in western Sicily throughout the Bronze Age. View the magnificent fifth-century Doric temple and ancient Greek-style theater that they built as you soak in views of the picturesque Sicilian countryside.

## Day 7: Museo Storico dello Sbarco & Historic Catania

\$89CAD/\$99CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the morning)

Explore Sicily's World War II history on a visit to the Museo Storico dello Sbarco, an interactive museum featuring striking photographs and a life-size model of a war-era bunker. Then, stroll past the Baroque architecture of Catania's historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site. You'll see the bustling shops and cafes of Via Etnea and Via dei Crociferi, the grand Teatro Massimo Bellini and the historic Palazzo Biscari. End your tour at the beautiful Piazza del Duomo, home of the famous elephant statue, where you'll have free time for lunch.

## Extension excursion options

### Day 8: Rome Home-Hosted Dinner

\$99CAD (3 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

Join a local at their home in Rome to enjoy traditional dishes and dine like a true Italian. During this dinner, you'll receive an authentic understanding of your host's day-to-day life while learning about Italian culture and traditions from a new perspective. Please note: Your Tour Director will not attend this excursion. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 20 days prior to departure.

### Day 9: Ancient Rome: St. Paul's Basilica & the Catacombs

\$125CAD/\$135CAD\* (4 hours, departure time varies)

Descend into Rome's ancient catacombs, where early Christians buried saints and popes alongside commoners. A local guide will lead you through the burial chambers before your visit to St. Paul's Basilica, one of the four most important basilicas of Rome. Originally founded by Constantine the Great, the Basilica also houses the tomb of St. Paul.

Please note: Shorts and sleeveless shirts are not permitted within the Basilica. Also, this excursion involves extensive walking and may be challenging for claustrophobic travelers.

### Day 10: Iconic Sights: Vatican City

\$175CAD (3.5 hours, departure time varies)

This guided tour takes you inside Vatican City—a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the most sacred places in Christendom. This independent city-state within Rome serves as the headquarters of the Roman Catholic Church and is home to the Pope. Upon arrival, turn on your pre-distributed headset and dive into the Vatican's rich history with your local guide. First, visit the Vatican Museums, which are more than 500 years old and house many of the world's most important Classical- and Renaissance-era sculptures. Next, step inside the Sistine Chapel, whose frescoed ceiling is arguably Michelangelo's greatest masterpiece. Finally, pay a visit to the enormous St. Peter's Basilica, the epicenter of the Roman Catholic faith. The artists who have contributed to its glory are some of the best Italy has ever known: Bramante, Peruzzi, Raphael, and Michelangelo. Masterpieces await at every turn, from Bernini's magnificent bronze canopy to Michelangelo's Pietà.

Please note: Should this excursion fall on a Sunday, it'll be moved to another day of the tour. Backpacks aren't allowed in the Vatican, and shorts and sleeveless shirts are strictly prohibited. Due to closures of certain entrances and pathways, wait times may extend to several hours during busy travel months. This excursion requires advance reservation and must be booked at least 70 days prior to departure.

### Day 10: Pasta-Making Class & Dinner

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)

In this hands-on cooking class led by an experienced Italian chef, you'll learn to make pasta—perhaps pillowy ravioli or castellane, a ridged shell pasta that's rolled into a long, oval shape—using traditional techniques you can keep on practicing when you get back home. Then, sit down for dinner and enjoy the dishes you've prepared, along with wine.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.ca/terms](https://goaheadtours.ca/terms)