

Robson Ranch Road Runners presents ...



Duomo Cathedral, Siracusa



Museo del Sale, Trapani

Sicily's Ancient Landscapes & Timeless Traditions

Sicily: Palermo, Mazara del Vallo, Piazza Armerina, Ragusa, Catania, Mount Etna



16 days starting from **\$7,045**
including international airfare
from Dallas–Fort Worth

Single Supplement: **FREE**

Departure Date: OCTOBER 6, 2026

Return Date: OCTOBER 21, 2026

Activity Level: ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ Moderate

ITINERARY SUMMARY

DAYS	DESTINATION
1	Fly to Palermo, Sicily
2-4	Palermo
5-7	Mazara del Vallo
8	Piazza Armerina
9-11	Ragusa
12-15	Catania
16	Return to U.S.

DATES, PRICES, ITINERARIES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

**PLEASE MENTION THIS
CODE WHEN BOOKING**

G6-30985

Information & Reservations 1-800-955-1925

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Capo Market, Palermo, Sicily

ITINERARY

Day 1 • Depart U.S.

Fly overnight from the U.S. to Palermo, Sicily.

Day 2 • Arrive in Palermo, Sicily

Arrive in Palermo. The day is yours to explore the city on your own. Perhaps you may decide to sample some of Sicily's famous seafood.

Hotel Federico II or similar

Day 3 • Palermo • Controversial Topic: The Sicilian Mafia

Explore Palermo on a walking tour with your fellow travelers, including those who took our *Puglia: Italy's Undiscovered Heel* pre-trip extension. Highlights include the Piazza Pretoria, where we'll learn why its 16th-century fountain is referred to as the "Fountain of Shame," and the Teatro Massimo Vittorio Emanuele, a prominent opera house located on the Piazza Verdi. We'll also stop at the Capo Market to sample some Sicilian treats. Later, gather for an enlightening **Controversial Topic** about the Sicilian Mafia (also known as *Cosa Nostra*). We will finish the day with a celebration welcome dinner.

Meals: B,D | Hotel Federico II or similar

Day 4 • A Day in the Life of Castelbuono

Today we'll spend **A Day in the Life** of Castelbuono, an ancient hilltop town crowned with a medieval castle. Learn about the town's garbage-collecting donkeys, tour the castle and adjacent museum, and stroll through the Piazza Margherita. This is a great opportunity to interact with local Sicilians and see what life is really like in rural Sicily.

Meals: B,L | Hotel Federico II or similar

Day 5 • Monreale • Segesta • Mazara del Vallo

Drive to Monreale and enjoy a guided visit. View the town's twelfth-century Norman Cathedral, which sits in the hills overlooking Palermo. Then, head to Segesta for an included lunch at a local *agriturismo* and learn about wine and olive oil production from the owner. Later, continue to Mazara del Vallo.

Meals: B,L | Mahara Hotel or similar

Day 6 • Mazara walking tour • Tunisian Kasbah • Home-Hosted Lunch

Embark on a walking tour of the UNESCO-protected city of Mazara. Here, some 3,000 Tunisians and other Maghreb Arabs live and work, a mingling of cultures and faiths that has deeply influenced the city. In Mazara's historic Kasbah quarter, we'll visit a museum

IT'S INCLUDED

- 14 nights accommodation
- International airfare, airport transfers, government taxes, fees, and airline fuel surcharges unless you choose to make your own air arrangements
- All land transportation
- 30 meals—14 breakfasts, 9 lunches, and 7 dinners (including 1 Home-Hosted Lunch)
- 24 small group activities
- Services of a local O.A.T. Trip Experience Leader
- Gratuities for local guides, drivers, and luggage porters
- 5% Frequent Traveler Credit toward your next adventure

built to house the famous "Dancing Satyr." Later, enjoy a **Home-Hosted Lunch** with a local family, dining on North African-influenced Sicilian cuisine.

Meals: B,L | Mahara Hotel or similar

Day 7 • Museo del Sale visit • Mothya Island • Sicilian cooking lesson

Visit Museo del Sale, a semi-working salt museum, and learn about the Trapani tradition of salt production and refinement. Then, take a boat ride (weather permitting) to the small island of Mothya. There, explore the ancient island fortress and a local museum, enjoy a picnic lunch, and take a gentle hike on one of the many footpaths that crisscross the island. Later in the day, we will take a cooking class at a local restaurant.

Meals: B,L,D | Mahara Hotel or similar

Day 8 • Piazza Armerina • Valley of the Temples • Agrigento

Depart for Piazza Armerina. En route, stop at the Valley of the Temples, situated outside the city of Agrigento, and view the archaeological remains of several Greek temples. Then, arrive at an *agriturismo*, our home for the night.

Meals: B,L,D | Vecchia Masseria or similar



Norman Cathedral, Palermo

Day 9 • Ragusa • Villa Romana del Casale • Winery tour

Depart for Villa Romana del Casale, home to the ruins of a Roman villa—a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then, visit a family-run winery and meet the owners. Enjoy a wine tasting and lunch. Afterward, continue to Ragusa and explore the town's Sicilian Baroque churches and *palazzi*.

Meals: B,L,D | Hotel Il Barocco or similar

Day 10 • Old Town Ragusa • Fiat ride through Modica

Explore Ragusa Ibla, one of Sicily's best-preserved old towns, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Then, journey to nearby Modica, part of the Val di Noto UNESCO World Heritage Site, and board vintage Fiat 500 cars to explore the city's winding streets in true Sicilian style.

Meals: B,D | Hotel Il Barocco or similar

Day 11 • Val di Noto farm visit • Optional Sicilian cooking class

This morning, visit a family farm nestled in the Val di Noto, where you'll discover some of Sicily's renowned culinary traditions during a tour of the property and lunch with the family. This afternoon, after returning

to Ragusa, you can join an optional Sicilian cooking class.

Meals: B,L | Hotel Il Barocco or similar

Day 12 • Catania • Siracusa • Explore Ortigia

After breakfast, we depart for Siracusa, known as the birthplace of the famed mathematician Archimedes and as one of the most powerful ports of the ancient Mediterranean world. At 2,700 years old, Siracusa boasts a rich and storied history—evident today in the city's Greek, Roman, and Baroque architecture, which has helped earn Siracusa UNESCO World Heritage Site designation. When we arrive, we'll set off on a discovery tour of Ortigia. Highlights include the fountain of Arethusa, the Temple of Apollo, and the Piazza del Duomo. Then, continue to Catania.

Meals: B,D | Hotel Una Palace or similar

Day 13 • Catania • World War II Museum • Conversation about volcanology

Explore Catania, a vibrant city perched on the edge of the Ionian Sea. We'll set out to discover the city on foot, stopping along the way at Catania's local World War II Museum, dedicated to the Allied landing on the southern coast of Sicily. After, we will visit the UNESCO-protected Cathedral of

Catania. Originally erected in the eleventh century, it has endured damage from numerous earthquakes over the years and today features a rich blend of Norman and Baroque architecture from its many repairs. Afterwards, Later, meet with a local volcanologist to learn about life in a volcanic region.

Meals: B,L | Hotel Una Palace or similar

Day 14 • Catania • Visit Taormina

Visit hillside Taormina, home to a Greco-Roman theater that is one of the most highly regarded ancient sites in Sicily. Get to know the city during a walking tour. We'll visit the famous amphitheater and take in a commanding view—perched atop a hill, the brick and stone structure offers a view of the building-speckled coastline, the Ionian Sea, and Mount Etna. Next, we'll explore Taormina's more contemporary delights: winding streets lined by pastel-hued buildings, many accented by wrought-iron balconies.

Meals: B | Hotel Una Palace or similar

Day 15 • Catania • Excursion to Mount Etna

Journey to Mount Etna, Europe's tallest active volcano. We'll board 4-wheel-drive vehicles to explore traces of Etna's lava flows before enjoying lunch. Then transfer back to Catania. This evening, enjoy a Farewell Dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: B,L,D | Hotel Una Palace or similar

Day 16 • Return to U.S.

Transfer to the airport for your flight home. Or, begin our *Calabria: Southern Italy's Hidden Heartland* post-trip extension.

Meals: B



2026 Departure Dates & Prices

Additional departure cities are available

Date OCTOBER 6, 2026
Return OCTOBER 21, 2026

Small Group Adventure only	\$5,595
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AIR ADD-ON

Dallas–Fort Worth	\$1,450
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Additional departure cities are available. Call for details.

Deposit: \$500 Deposit per person.

Travel Protection: Starting from \$899.

Single Supplement: FREE. Single accommodations are limited. If single rooms are full, ask about our Roommate Matching Service.

RESERVATIONS & INFORMATION:

1-800-955-1925

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11 months prior	6% off	\$390	\$780

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