



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS



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Archaeology-focused tours for the curious to the connoisseur.

SICILY

ARCHAEOLOGY, ART & CUISINE

October 12-24, 2024 (13 days | 16 guests) with archaeologist Jenifer Neils

Join the extended tour in Malta, October 24-28, 2024



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Archaeological Institute of America Lecturer and Host



A professor of ancient art history and a classical archaeologist, **Jenifer Neils** is an expert on the ancient Mediterranean. Recently she served as the first woman Director of the American School of Classical

Studies at Athens. Previously she held the Elsie B. Smith Chair of Classics at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, and regularly taught courses on the art and archaeology of the ancient world from the Bronze Age to Late Antiquity. She has been a visiting professor at the University of California at Berkeley and Johns Hopkins University. As a field archaeologist Professor Neils has participated in excavations in northern Italy and Greece, but notably Sicily (Morgantina), where she has spent years studying the imported pottery. She has also held prestigious fellowships at the American Academy in Rome, the J. Paul Getty Research Center, and the Paul Mellon Center at Yale.

As a museum curator Professor Neils has organized three highly-acclaimed international loan exhibitions of Greek art, one dealing with the worship of Athena in Athens, one on childhood in antiquity, and most recently a show on horsemanship in ancient Athens (2021). She has also published over a dozen books ranging from the history of ceramics to the Parthenon. Her latest are *The Cambridge Companion to Ancient Athens* and *HIPPOS: The Horse in Ancient Athens*, as well as a children's book entitled *AVRA: An Amazing Greek Horse*. During the 2011-12 academic year Professor Neils was the Joukowsky Lecturer for the AIA. An indefatigable lecturer and traveler, she has served as study leader for over a dozen trips to ancient sites throughout the Mediterranean and the Middle East, including the 2023 departure of this AIA tour of Sicily.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Discover several of the most impressive Greek archaeological sites in the Mediterranean, such as Agrigento, Selinunte, Segesta, Morgantina, and Syracuse.
- Travel and learn with our engaging archaeologist, Jenifer Neils.
- Admire spectacular, sunlit landscapes of undulating vineyards and Mediterranean Sea vistas.
- See two of the finest examples of Norman architecture: Monreale Cathedral and the Royal Palace of Palermo (Palazzo dei Normanni).
- View extensive archaeological collections at several excellent museums.
- Savor fine cuisine, with wine included at group dinners.
- Feel pampered with five nights at a 5-star hotel and six nights at 4-star hotels, all chosen for their generous comfort and prime locations.
- Relax and enjoy traveling with a maximum of just 16 guests plus your expert lecturer, tour manager, and local guides.
- Choose to extend your trip for four nights to discover the renowned and extraordinary prehistoric monuments on the island of Malta.



- ✈ = Flights
- = Itinerary stops
- ② = Overnight stays
- = Optional extension

4 MALTA

COVER: (Top) The Doric Greek Temple E (Selinunte), (Bottom from left) Fountain of Diana (Ortygia, Syracuse), Erice, mosaic at Piazza Armerina



© Matteo

ITINERARY

(B)= Breakfast, (L)= Lunch, (R)=Reception, (D)= Dinner

Saturday, October 12, 2024: Depart home for Palermo, Sicily, Italy

Depart home on overnight flights to Palermo.

Sunday, October 13: Arrive Palermo | Private transfer to hotel | Orientation meeting

Upon arrival at Palermo's Falcone Borsellino Airport (PMO), you will be met and transferred privately to our hotel in Palermo's city center. Take some time to relax before gathering for an orientation meeting. Dinner is on your own this evening. *Overnight at the the 4-star [Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa](#) for two nights.*

Monday, October 14: Monreale | Palermo: Royal Palace of Palermo & Cappella Palatina | Welcome dinner

This morning we drive to nearby Monreale to visit its famous cathedral, one of the world's greatest extant examples of Norman architecture. Wander through Moorish-style arcades and examine its exquisite, gold mosaics illustrating biblical tales. We return to Palermo, a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 2015 (together with the Cathedral Churches of Cefalù and Monreale). After an independent lunch in one of Palermo's many *trattorias*, we stroll through the Royal Palace of Palermo (Palazzo dei Normanni) and its spectacular, mosaic-filled chapel (Cappella Palatina). This evening we gather for a welcome reception and dinner at a local restaurant. (B,R,D)

Tuesday, October 15: Segesta | Erice | Marsala

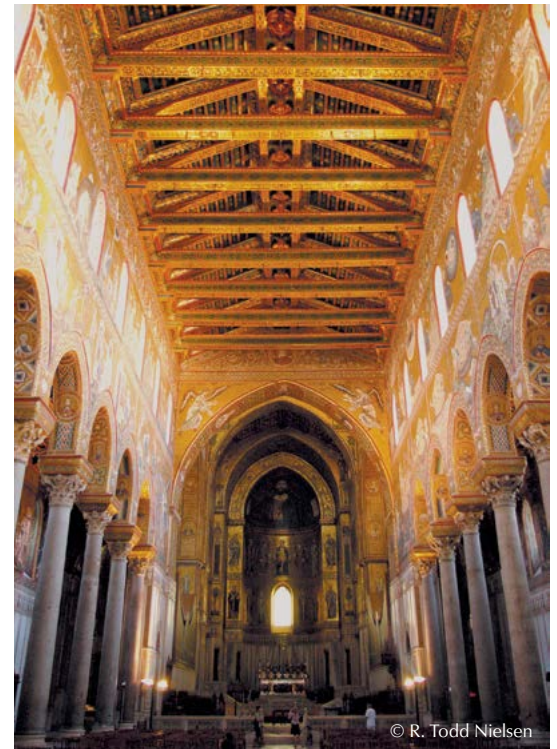
Visit Segesta's well-preserved 5th-century B.C. Doric Greek temple and 3rd-century B.C. Greek theater, scenically set on Mount Barbaro. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and continue to Erice, whose walled, medieval town is perched on a mountain with a striking view over the port of Trapani and sea. We take the cable car down to Trapani and then drive to Marsala, where we check-in to our hotel. *Overnight at the 5-star [Grand Hotel Palace](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Wednesday, October 16: Island of Mozia | Marsala: Archaeological Museum

Board a private boat and set out for the Stagnone Nature Reserve, home to a mini archipelago the centerpiece of which is the small Island of Mozia (ancient Motya). Originally settled by the Phoenicians in the 8th century B.C, it was sacked by Syracuse in the 4th century B.C. Take a leisurely walking tour of the island to see some of the archaeological remains and also visit the Whitaker

"Our AIA Tour was so well organized. I enjoyed all the ruins and also the small group."

- Dorothy, California



© R. Todd Nielsen



© SirNico

Above: (top) Monreale Cathedral, (bottom) Bread Cunuzato (Sicilian specialty)

“We had researched well over 20 companies and individual tours before selecting this one from AIA. We don't think we could have made a better selection.”

- James & Linda, Michigan

Museum, which houses a unique collection of Phoenician artifacts and Greek vases found on the island. Return to Marsala for lunch, and then explore Marsala's Regional Archaeological Museum Baglio Anselmi, which houses artifacts from Motya and ancient Lilybaeum (modern Marsala), including the wreck of a 3rd-century B.C. Punic warship that was found near Marsala in 1969. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

Thursday, October 17: Selinunte | Agrigento

Depart Marsala this morning for Selinunte (ancient Selinos), perched on a clifftop overlooking the sea. We stop just outside of Selinunte to visit the ancient stone quarries (schedule permitting), and then visit Selinunte itself. This was the westernmost Greek colony, established in the 7th century B.C., and today its vast ruins comprise temples, fortifications, and houses. After a casual seaside lunch we drive to Agrigento, founded as a Greek colony in the 6th century B.C., and settle in to our hotel. Gather for dinner this evening. *Overnight at the 4-star [Hotel Costazzurra Museum & Spa](#) for two nights.* (B,L,D)

Friday, October 18: Agrigento: Archaeological Museum, Valley of the Temples

Spend this morning exploring the Regional Archaeological Museum of Agrigento, which displays over 5,500 artifacts from the prehistoric through the Greco-Roman periods. Particularly noteworthy are the *kouros* (Archaic Greek statue) known as the “Ephebe of Agrigento,” and the giant *Telamon* (load-bearing statue) from the Temple of Olympian Zeus. After an independent lunch we explore the striking Valley of the Temples, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with very well-preserved Doric Greek temples to Concordia, Hera, Herakles, and more. Return to our hotel and gather for dinner this evening. (B,D)

Saturday, October 19: Piazza Armerina | Aidone

After a leisurely breakfast we drive to the town of Piazza Armerina, a charming Sicilian hamlet located halfway between Agrigento and Catania. After strolling its lovely city center and having lunch at leisure, we visit the nearby UNESCO World Heritage Site of the Villa Romana del Casale. The villa's exquisite mosaics—some of the best preserved in the Roman world—were buried in mud for centuries until they were rediscovered in the late 19th century. Our accommodations tonight are at a lovely, family-run farming estate on nearly 500 acres in Aidone. *Overnight at the 4-star [Agriturismo Il Drago](#) for two nights.* (B,D)



Top to bottom: Temple at Segesta, Agrigento, Greek theater (Morgantina)



(Above) Ortygia (the historical center of Syracuse), (below) Syracuse Cathedral, Roman mosaic in the Villa Romana del Casale (Piazza Armerina)

Sunday, October 20: Morgantina | Archaeological Museum of Aidone | PM at leisure

We explore this morning the nearby archaeological site of Morgantina, a large ancient Greek settlement. Excavations since the 1950s have revealed what remains of a street grid, private homes, and public spaces—especially the agora (gathering place) with its theater and a sanctuary dedicated to Demeter and Persephone. We return to Aidone to visit its Archaeological Museum, housed in a former Capuchin monastery, which displays artifacts from Morgantina including the beautiful, 5th-century B.C. “Morgantina Goddess” statue. After an independent lunch in the charming village of Aidone, we enjoy an afternoon at leisure and then gather for dinner. (B,D)

Monday, October 21: Catania walking tour | Ortygia, Syracuse

Today we drive eastward to the ancient port city of Catania, where we take a leisurely orientation tour and appreciate the beauty of its Baroque architecture. Catania is one of the eight towns included in the UNESCO World Heritage listing “Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto (South-Eastern Sicily),” rebuilt after the devastating earthquake of 1693. After a visit to its Archaeological Museum we stroll through the colorful fish market for an independent lunch of street food. Continue driving southward to Syracuse, a city that once rivaled ancient Athens in terms of culture and economic strength. Check-in to our hotel on the island of Ortygia, Syracuse’s historical center, and gather this evening for dinner at a local restaurant. *Overnight at the 5-star [Ortea Palace Luxury Hotel](#) for three nights.* (B,D)

Tuesday, October 22: Syracuse: AM walking tour of Ortygia | PM at leisure

This morning we set out on a walking tour of Ortygia, which was colonized by Greeks from Corinth in 734 B.C. This is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site “Syracuse and the Rocky Necropolis of Pantalica.” Call at the massive Cathedral with a Baroque façade, built in the local white stone over a 5th-century B.C. Temple of Athena. See the 6th-century B.C. Temple of Apollo, which served as a church, mosque, and military barracks at various points throughout its history. Meet a local artisan who makes by hand *pupi* (marionettes), and learn about *opera dei pupi*, a theatrical marionette representation of Frankish romantic poems that is one of Sicily’s characteristic cultural traditions. Lunch and the balance of the day are at leisure to relax or pursue individual interests. (B)



Wednesday, October 23: Syracuse: Neapolis Archaeological Park, Archaeological Museum, PM at leisure | Farewell dinner

Spend the morning exploring the Parco Archeologico della Neapolis (Neapolis Archaeological Park), which includes the well-preserved, 5th-century B.C. Greek theater, with a 16,000-person capacity; and the Orecchio di Dionisio (Ear of Dionysius), a limestone cave that was named after its similarity in shape to the human ear (not to mention the impressive acoustic effects of the cave) and the tyrant Dionysius, who kept prisoners in the adjacent quarry. End the morning with a visit to the modern Paolo Orsi Regional Archaeological Museum, with one of Sicily's largest and most interesting archaeological collections, documenting the island from prehistory to the late Roman period. Enjoy lunch and the balance of the day at leisure to relax, pack, or perhaps do some last-minute shopping. Gather this evening for a festive farewell dinner overlooking the Mediterranean. (B,D)

Thursday, October 24: Fly home

Travelers who are not continuing on the optional extension to Malta will be transferred privately this morning to Catania-Fontanarossa Airport (CTA) for their flights homeward. Travelers who are continuing on the optional extension will be transferred from Syracuse to Pozzallo, to catch a ferry to Malta. (B)



Modern bronze statue of Icarus by Igor Mitoraj at the Temple of Concordia, Agrigento.



Ear of Dionysius cave (Syracuse)

The AIA and the AIA Tours Program

The Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) is the oldest and largest archaeological organization in North America. The AIA seeks to educate people of all ages about the significance of archaeological discovery. For more than a century the AIA has been dedicated to the encouragement and support of archaeological research and publication, and to the protection of the world's archaeological resources and cultural heritage. By traveling on an AIA Tour you directly support the AIA while personally gaining the benefit of the AIA's network of scholars and worldwide contacts.



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© tango7174
Monreale

OPTIONAL, POST-TOUR EXTENSION

Malta

October 24-28, 2024 with a tour manager/local guide

Thursday, October 24, 2024: Ferry to Malta | Valletta | PM at leisure

Take a private transfer from Syracuse to Pozzallo, and board a ferry to the island nation of Malta. (The trip takes just under three hours and the ferry has comfortable lounge chairs and a nice cafeteria.) Upon arrival in Valletta, the balance of the day is at leisure to relax and enjoy our hotel's amenities. *Overnight at the 4-star [The Gomerino Hotel](#) for four nights.* (B)

Friday, October 25: Mdina | Ħaġar Qim & Mnajdra Temples | Valletta

Malta's strategic location in the center of the Mediterranean has endowed it with a myriad of cultural influences and a long, fascinating history. This morning we drive to the hilltop, walled city of Mdina, whose ancient streets, built to protect residents from high temperatures and approaching enemies, are a succession of curves and crossroads. Walk to St. Paul's Cathedral, one of Malta's most important examples of Baroque architecture, and to St. Paul's Catacombs, a complex of underground rock-cut tombs and passages that represent the earliest evidence of Christianity on Malta. After lunch at a local restaurant we drive to the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Ħaġar Qim and Mnajdra (part of the "Megalithic Temples of Malta"). Ħaġar Qim stands on a hilltop overlooking the sea and the islet of Fiffa, and at the bottom of the hill is Mnajdra. First excavated in 1839, the remains date to between 3600-3200 B.C., a period known as the Ġgantija phase in Maltese prehistory. Return to our hotel and then gather for dinner at a local restaurant. (B,L,D)

Saturday, October 26: Valletta: Walking tour, National Museum of Archaeology | Ħal Saffieni Hypogeum | Tarxien

This morning we explore Valletta, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, during a guided walking tour. Enjoy a wonderful panoramic view of the city from the Upper Barakka Gardens, and then visit St. John's Co-Cathedral, featuring impressive Baroque architecture and precious works of art. Continue to the National Museum of Archaeology, which exhibits a spectacular range of artifacts from Malta's Neolithic (5000 B.C.) to Phoenician (400 B.C.) periods. After an independent lunch we visit (permission pending) the Ħal Saffieni Hypogeum, a UNESCO World Heritage Site that was discovered in 1902. In the interest of the site's conservation, only 80 visitors are allowed per day, and we hope to be among them. The Hypogeum is a prehistoric burial complex made up of interconnecting, rock-cut chambers on three levels, and was in use from about 4000-2500 B.C. End our fascinating day at Tarxien, part of the "Megalithic Temples of Malta" UNESCO World Heritage Site, which dates from 3600-2500 B.C. and is renowned for its detailed carvings. Return to our hotel and enjoy dinner at leisure. (B)

Sunday, October 27: Gozo: Ġgantija, Cittadella, Museum of Archaeology | Farewell dinner

Set out early today to visit Malta's sister island of Gozo, barely 20 minutes from the mainland by ferry. Our explorations begin at the two temples at Ġgantija, part of the "Megalithic Temples of Malta" UNESCO World Heritage Site, which date from about 3600 to 3200 B.C. Stroll through the Cittadella (Citadel), a small, fortified town in the island's center that was first settled in the Bronze Age; take some time for an independent lunch; and re-group to visit the Gozo Museum of Archaeology, which illustrates the cultural history of Gozo from prehistory to the early modern period. Return by ferry to Malta and drive to our hotel. This evening we gather for a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B,D)

Monday, October 28: Fly home

This morning you are transferred privately to Malta International Airport (MLA) for flights homeward. (B)



Above (from left): Mnajdra Temple, Valletta



Mdina



Ġgantija Temples



Ħaġar Qim

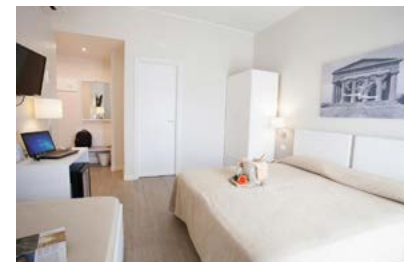
Accommodations



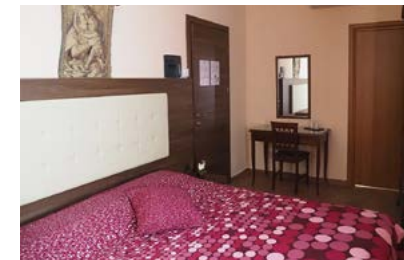
PALERMO: Two nights at the 4-star [Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa](#)



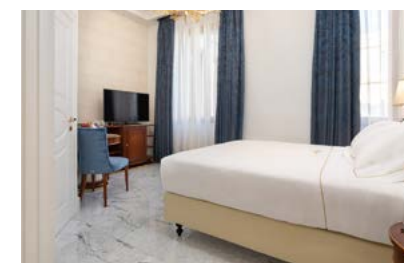
MARSALA: Two nights at the 5-star [Grand Hotel Palace](#)



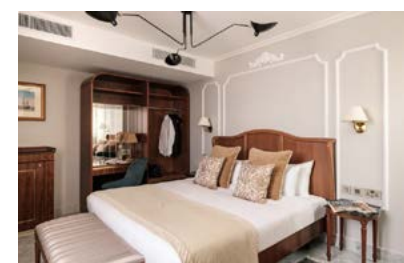
AGRIGENTO: Two nights at the 4-star [Hotel Costazzurra Museum & Spa](#)



AIDONE: Two nights at the 4-star [Agriturismo Il Drago](#)



ORTYGIA: Three nights at the 5-star [Ortea Palace Luxury Hotel](#)



Optional extension: MALTA: Four nights at the 4-star [The Gomerino Hotel](#)



ACTIVE: Must be able to walk three or more miles per day on mostly uneven terrain, and up and down inclines and steps.

What to Expect

You must be able to make long walks, unassisted, over uneven terrain and up and down steps. Participants who are not able to walk or stand unassisted for extended periods are kindly advised not to join this tour. All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, to enjoy traveling as part of a group, and to be ready to experience cultural differences. Some sites require strenuous and/or brisk walking or climbing, sometimes with difficult footing. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/ Operator, local staff, and host country laws. Any participant showing signs of illness will be asked to wear a mask when in close proximity to others. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you.

In October, the weather is usually warm, however it is the beginning of autumn so temperatures begin to cool down and there will be chances of rain. Average daytime temperatures in Sicily can range from the high 60s to the mid-70s F, and nighttime temperatures can dip to the mid-50s F. In Malta you can expect temperatures to range from the mid-60s to the mid-70s F. *Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.*

Flights & Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included. Private airport transfers are included on your arrival at Palermo Airport (PMO) and for departure from either Catania-Fontanarossa Airport (CTA) or Malta International Airport (MLA). Your flight itinerary must be provided to our office prior to the tour. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking non-refundable airline tickets before this time, please contact our office first. *We do not accept any liability for cancellation penalties related to domestic or international airline tickets.*

Main Tour Prices per person (11 nights)

Double Occupancy (13-16 participants).....	\$7,895
Double Occupancy (9-12 participants).....	\$8,595
Single Supplement (limited availability)	\$1,395

Optional Malta Post-Tour Extension Prices per person (4 nights)

Double Occupancy (11-16 participants).....	\$2,545
Double Occupancy (6-10 participants).....	\$2,745
Double Occupancy (4-5 participants).....	\$3,045
Single Supplement (limited availability)	\$675

Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required. With fewer than 9 participants on the main tour and/or fewer than 4 participants on the extension, a small group surcharge may be added.

Main Tour & Extension Prices Include:

- **AIA lecturer/host Jenifer Neils on the main tour.** Services of a professional **tour manager/expert local guide(s) on both the main tour and extension**
- **11 nights' accommodations** on the main tour including six nights in 4-star hotels and five nights in 5-star hotels. During the extension we spend 4 nights in a 4-star hotel on Malta
- **Local cuisine:** meals on the main tour include breakfast daily, three lunches, and eight dinners. Meals on the extension include breakfast daily, one lunch, and two dinners. Included meals will have bottled water or soft drinks, plus coffee or tea and wine with dinners; and the **welcome reception and farewell dinner(s)** include beer and/or wine
- **Private arrival and departure airport transfers**
- **All sightseeing and excursions** as per itinerary
- **Personal listening audio devices** during excursions
- Surface transportation via **private, modern coach** with bottled water available; a day trip ferry on the main tour, and **three ferry transfers** on the extension
- **All gratuities** to tour manager/guide(s), drivers, waiters (for included meals), and porters
- **Baggage handling** at all hotels
- **All VAT, local taxes, and service charges**
- **Comprehensive pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list

Prices Do Not Include: Airfare from/to home; passport and visa fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; meals other than those indicated in the itinerary; personal tips; items of a personal nature, such as laundry, taxi, medical expenses, telephone, and fax charges; beverages except as noted; deviations from scheduled tour; and other items not listed as included.

Payments: A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "Eos AIA-Sicily10/24." Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure and must be by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. *By submitting your deposit you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.*

Participant Cancellation Fees: All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. Cancellations received at least 180 days prior to departure (April 15, 2024) are fully refunded. Cancellations received from 179 through 121 days (June 13, 2024) prior to departure are refunded less a cancellation fee of \$500 per person. Cancellations received from 120 through 61 days prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost. Cancellations received 60 days or less prior to departure are subject to a cancellation fee of 100% of the tour cost. *For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

Note: Prices are based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in tariffs, exchange rates, and the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions will be sent upon confirmation or upon request, and can be viewed online at www.aiatours.org.



For questions, and to reserve your space, please contact AIA Tours at:

800-748-6262 | Toll: 603-756-2884 | Fax: 603-756-2922 | aia@studytours.org | www.aiatours.org

P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608



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with archaeologist Jenifer Neils

Join the extended tour in Malta, October 24-28, 2024

“An incredibly high quality tour. I learned so much while at the same time enjoying fantastic meals and diverse and lovely accommodations.”

- Donna, New York



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To fill out an online reservation form, [click here](#). Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
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RESERVATION FORM

SICILY: Archaeology, Art & Cuisine

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optional post-tour extension to Malta October 24-28, 2024

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at 800-748-6262 or aia@studytours.org.

Name 1
(as it appears on passport)

Name 2
(as it appears on passport)

Address

City State Zip

Phone (home) Phone (cell)

Email(s)

I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully on the program.

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, _____

Please sign me/us up for the optional, post-tour Malta extension (additional cost).

How did you hear about this tour? eNewsletter mailing website friends/family other _____

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed) Twin (two beds) Single

I will be sharing with: _____

Share-please assign a roommate (not guaranteed)

Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 120 days prior to departure.
Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. All prices and payments are in US dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (please check one):

Check payable to: Eos AIA-Sicily10/24 Visa Master Card American Express Already paid by phone

CC#

Exp. Date 3- or 4-Digit Code

Name on Card

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement below.
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:

AIA Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938

Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: aia@studytours.org

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms & Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1) Date

Signature (participant #2) Date

TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

RESPONSIBILITY: The Archaeological Institute of America and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of

reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **PRICES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to binding arbitration in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If, due to weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, you are required to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfers, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from AIA Tours' trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future AIA Tours promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.