



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

Sicily

A circumnavigation aboard *Sea Cloud II*
May 29–June 7, 2021

Featuring AIA President **Laetitia La Follette**

**SPECIAL
PAYMENT
TERMS**

For peace of mind,
**your payments are
100% refundable** until
February 23, 2021.
Contact us for more details



Dear Traveler,

I invite you to **join Archaeological Institute of America President Laetitia La Follette on a spring cruise circumnavigating Sicily aboard the luxurious, 47-cabin, three-masted barque *Sea Cloud II***. Begin and end on the island of Malta which, together with Sicily, has witnessed and bears the stamps of all the major civilizations that the Mediterranean cradled: Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Normans, Christians, Jews, Byzantines, and Muslims. Each civilization left important stylistic traces in major architectural, urban, and artistic monuments. Classical temples, open-air theaters, villas adorned with mosaics and frescoes, magnificently adorned churches and chapels, Islamic cloisters, and Baroque cathedrals are all found in abundance.

Begin in **Valletta**, the vibrant capital city of the island nation of Malta and one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world. Then embark *Sea Cloud II* for a splendid seven-night cruise circumnavigating Sicily. Explore the island's treasures with stops in Trapani (for **Segesta**, and **Erice** or **Marsala**), **Palermo**, Giardini Naxos (for **Taormina** and **Mt. Etna**), and **Syracuse**. This itinerary also spends a day in the **Aeolian Islands**, one of seven UNESCO sites visited during this cruise, as well as a specially-timed sailing to enjoy up-close views of the still-active Stromboli volcano. Also available is an **optional, post-trip extension on Malta and Gozo**, with visits to remarkable Neolithic and medieval sites.

Your host vessel, the *Sea Cloud II*, offers **excellent cruise accommodations** while capturing the timeless elegance of sailing. To be on deck when the sails are fully extended is an unforgettable experience. Thus, this itinerary is planned to ensure **ample sailing time** to enjoy the majesty of this vessel and the thrill of sailing.

A robust educational program rounds out this outstanding journey. AIA lecturer and host Laetitia La Follette, Professor of Greek and Roman Art and Architecture, and Gary Radke, an expert on Italian medieval and Renaissance art and architecture, will offer **a series of illustrated lectures and informal discussions** along the way. With only 47 cabins available, and with this cruise being co-sponsored by other organizations, I encourage you to reserve your preferred cabin today by contacting AIA Tours at aia@studytours.org or **(800) 748-6262**.

Sincerely,



R. Todd Nielsen
Director, AIA Tours
Archaeological Institute of America

THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE OF AMERICA 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.



Study Leaders



Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host Laetitia La Follette is Professor of Greek and Roman Art and Architecture, founding chair of the Department of the History of Art and Architecture at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and President of the Archaeological Institute of America. She earned her BA in Classics at Harvard-Radcliffe and her PhD in classical archaeology at Princeton. Laetitia has published in the field of

ancient art and archaeology as well as cultural heritage policy. She has excavated in Greece and Israel, and her research interests include Greek and Roman architecture, Roman religion, Roman sculpture, and Roman women. Recipient of the College Outstanding Teacher Award, College of Humanities and Fine Arts, UMass Amherst, she is currently working on a book on the portraits of an ancient Roman noble family that were discovered in (and smuggled out of) Rome in the 1880s. Laetitia looks forward to accompanying this program, during which we will explore some of her favorite places in the world.



Smithsonian Journeys study leader **Gary Radke**, Emeritus Professor of Art and Music Histories at Syracuse University, is one of the world's leading experts on Italian Medieval and Renaissance art and architecture, with a special interest in 15th-century Florentine sculpture. Since 2001, Radke has served as a guest curator at Atlanta's High Museum of Art, where he organized a series of high-profile shows featuring works by Leonardo, Michelangelo, Ghiberti,

Verrocchio, and other Italian Renaissance masters. Radke is a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome.

Highlights

- ◆ Visit **seven UNESCO World Heritage Sites** as you make your way around Sicily
- ◆ Sail for **seven nights aboard the spectacular *Sea Cloud II***, a 5-star sailing vessel that combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with unparalleled modern luxury
- ◆ Customize your experience with a menu of included **excursion options geared to different interests and mobility levels** in nearly every port
- ◆ Stroll among **fantastically preserved ancient Greek and Roman ruins** at Segesta, Taormina, and Siracusa
- ◆ Sample **Palermo's famed street food** during a specially-curated lunch in Old Town
- ◆ See the dramatic **Aeolian Islands**, a dramatic archipelago north of Sicily, including the active **Stromboli** volcano.





VALLETTA



MARSALA



AEOLIAN ISLANDS

Itinerary

Sat-Sun, May 29-30

DEPART U.S. / VALLETTA, MALTA

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Valletta, arriving on Sunday, May 30. Transfer to the hotel and gather for a welcome reception this evening.

GRAND HOTEL EXCELSIOR (R)

Monday, May 31

VALLETTA / EMBARK

The entire city of Valletta is a UNESCO World Heritage site, built by the Knights of St. John to defend against Ottoman invasions in the 16th century. Following an introductory lecture, tour the icons of the city and sample Maltese cuisine over lunch in a historic palazzo. Join an optional excursion to the Neolithic temples of Tarxien before boarding *Sea Cloud II* in the late afternoon.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Tuesday, June 1

FULL DAY OF SAILING

Sit back and observe skilled deckhands as they scale the masts that reach 180 feet high to set the sails on what is the finest hand-sailed square-rigger of our age. Enjoy the continuation of the lecture series and free time to take advantage of the ship's many amenities.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Wednesday, June 2

TRAPANI, SICILY

Begin your exploration of

Sicily with a visit to the two main monuments of Segesta: The well-preserved Doric Greek temple, thought to have been designed by an Athenian architect, and the semicircular theater, located on top of a nearby hill boasting wonderful views that made stage scenery unnecessary. Then choose between: 1) An ascent to the medieval hilltop town of Erice, where an impressive Norman castle sits atop the ruins of a temple of Venus and tiny treasure-filled churches dot the cobbled alleyways, or 2) A jaunt to seaside Marsala, an ancient city famous for its wine, to visit the oldest winery in the region and delve into its history on a private tour.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Thursday, June 3

MONREALE & PALERMO

Begin today with a visit to Monreale, home to a stunning 12th-century cathedral that is a UNESCO World Heritage site recognized as one of the world's greatest surviving examples of Norman architecture. Continue to Sicily's capital city of Palermo to marvel at its diverse architectural treasures, including the Royal Palace with its dazzling *Cappella Palatina* (Royal Chapel), also designated a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Enjoy a lunch that samples traditional Sicilian street food in the city's atmospheric Old Town, and spend the rest of the afternoon exploring its narrow and lively streets including a visit to Palazzo Abatellis, a medieval palace sensitively renovated as an art museum, or explore Palermo's famed Archaeological Museum, which features artifacts from the island's major sites.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Friday, June 4

LIPARI, AEOLIAN ISLANDS

Sail to the small volcanic islet of Lipari, part of the Aeolian Islands, another UNESCO World Heritage site, whose cultural history stretches back 7,000 years. While ashore choose between an e-bike excursion through Lipari's stunningly beautiful landscape; a leisurely drive around the perimeter of the island with spectacular views of the other Aeolian volcanoes; or an in-depth walking tour of the town center with a visit to the Aeolian Archaeological Museum, displaying an impressive collection of ancient local artifacts. This evening, gather on deck for a cocktail reception as the ship cruises past the active volcano on the neighboring island of Stromboli.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)



TAORMINA



ERICE



ORTIGIA



TAORMINA

Saturday, June 5

TAORMINA

Spend the morning exploring the cliffhanging, old-world resort town of Taormina. See the charming market, buzzing shops and cafés on the fashionable pedestrian-only Corso Umberto, and the ancient Greek theater, hosting performances for more than two thousand years. Weather permitting, choose to forgo Taormina for a trip up Mt. Etna, ascending the slopes via cable car for stunning views from the top of Europe's largest active volcano. Return to the ship and set sail for Siracusa, arriving in time to join Sicilians for *La Passeggiata*, the Italian tradition of taking a walk in the evening.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Sunday, June 6

SIRACUSA

Founded around 734 B.C. by Greek Corinthians, Siracusa was conquered and ruled by Romans, Saracens, Byzantines, Normans, and Ottomans, who each left a legacy of archaeological treasures that have earned the city UNESCO World Heritage status. Tour the expansive archaeological park, home to the stunning Greek theater and Roman amphitheater that combine to make this one of the greatest

archaeological sites in all of Italy. Continue to the adjacent fortified island of Ortigia to take in the sights and smells of the bustling food market before strolling through the beautiful alleyways and piazzas to the Piazza del Duomo, home to the city's monumental cathedral. Take a private tour of the Santa Lucia alla Badia church, home to Caravaggio's arresting masterpiece *Seppellimento di Santa Lucia (Burial of St Lucy, 1609)*. In a nearby palazzo dating back to the Middle Ages, enjoy a wine tasting in the owner's cellar and a private viewing of the family's collection of etchings of Siracusa and Sicily. Gather aboard *Sea Cloud II* for a farewell dinner en route to Malta.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

Monday, June 7
VALLETTA, MALTA /
DISEMBARK / HOME

Gather on deck this morning as the *Sea Cloud II* returns to Valletta's spectacular Grand Harbor. Following breakfast, prepare to disembark for flights home.

(B)



June 7-9

Optional Post-Tour Extension in Malta

This two-night post-trip extension offers the chance to experience the sites, stunning landscape and local charm of this island nation beyond its capital city, including a day trip to the idyllic island of Gozo to see some of the oldest megalithic temples on Earth.

Further details will be sent to confirmed participants

PHOTO CREDITS:
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Sea Cloud II



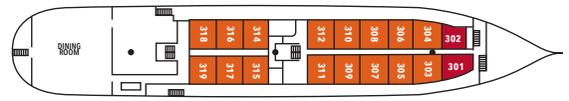
The iconic *Sea Cloud II* is perhaps the most luxurious three-masted sailing yacht on the seas today. Like Marjorie Merriweather Post's legendary *Sea Cloud*, she combines the seafaring elegance of a bygone era with the highest modern standards of luxury. In the grand tradition of the world's finest sailing vessels, guests can experience this marvelous ship under sail as the skilled crew hand-sets over 30,000 square feet of canvas. The *Sea Cloud II* offers an intimate setting of just 47 beautifully appointed cabins, gracious common areas, world-class service, and 5-star dining.

Program Rates (per person)

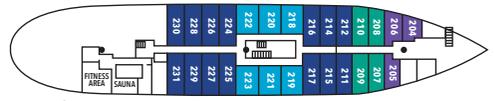
CATEGORY		DOUBLE	SINGLE
1	150 sq. ft., upper & lower single beds, two portholes, shower	\$6,995	\$9,995
2	204 sq. ft., forward, twins or queen bed, two portholes, shower	\$8,995	\$12,495
3	215 sq. ft., twins or queen bed, two portholes, shower	\$9,995	\$14,495
4	226 sq. ft., midship, queen bed, three portholes, shower	\$10,995	—
5	215 sq. ft., queen bed, panorama windows, shower	\$12,995	—
6	247 sq. ft., twins or queen bed, panorama windows, shower	\$14,995	—
7	290 sq. ft., king bed, panorama windows, bathtub & shower	\$16,995	—



LIDO DECK



PROMENADE DECK



CABIN DECK

General Information

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

All accommodations, meals, and excursions as specified in the itinerary, including **one hotel night and seven nights aboard *Sea Cloud II*** · Comprehensive program of briefings, lectures, and presentations · Transfers for all participants on group arrival and departure dates · **Gratuities to porters, wait staff, guides, drivers and shipboard personnel for all group activities** · Entrance fees and port charges · Welcome and farewell wine receptions · **House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners** · Bottled water on motorcoaches · Complete packet of pre-departure information · **Professional tour manager** throughout the program

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

U.S. domestic and international airfare is not included in the program rates. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc., can help with airline arrangements for this trip and can be reached at 877-376-1754. You are also welcome to book your air transportation through your local travel agent, an online travel site, or the airline of your choice.

WHAT TO EXPECT

This is a moderately strenuous program, at times physically demanding and busy, with considerable walking at some sites. The ship does not have an elevator, so you will need to navigate stairs, possibly while on choppy seas. Activities can involve up to two miles of walking, often on cobble streets and uneven terrain; elevators may not be available and stairs may not have handrails. Participants should be fit and in active good health. Limited medical facilities are available on board the *Sea Cloud II*. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the participant certifies that s/he does not have any physical or other limitation that would create a hazard for her/himself or other travelers.

GROUP SIZE

This program is limited to 78 participants, including travelers from the AIA and Smithsonian Journeys.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance for trip cancellation and interruption, medical problems, baggage loss and delay, etc., is highly recommended. Trip cancellation policies that apply to this expedition are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

PROGRAM RATES

DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare · Passport/visa expenses · Medical expenses and immunizations · Travel and trip cancellation insurance · Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure days · Optional excursions or deviations from the scheduled tour · Airline baggage charges · Meals not specified in the itinerary; dishes and beverages not part of the included meals; liquor or soft drinks except as noted

· Laundry or dry cleaning · Telephone, fax, internet, and email charges · Room service · Other items of a personal nature

A NOTE ABOUT COSTS

Tour costs are based upon current fuel prices, currency values, taxes, tariffs, and a minimum number of participants. While we will do everything possible to maintain the listed prices, they are subject to change. If there are significant changes, details and costs will be advised prior to departure.

RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS

To reserve space, return the completed reservation form with your \$1,000 per person deposit to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main St., Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938 or fax to 603-756-2922. Balance of payment is due 120 days prior to departure (January 29, 2021). We accept checks, payable to 'Eos Passenger Account – AIA SicilyMaltaCRI5/21' as well as VISA, MasterCard and American Express for deposits. Reservations will be processed in order of receipt. Credit cards are NOT accepted for final payment.

PASSENGER CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS

Cancellations must be received in writing by AIA Tours. All cancellations received by February 23, 2021 (95 days prior to departure) are fully refundable. Cancellations received after February 23, 2021 are 100% nonrefundable. For this reason, we strongly urge participants to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not participate in any part of the program, who do not complete the tour for whatever reason, or whose entry into any country or hotel or aboard any cruise vessel on the itinerary is delayed or denied.

TRIP CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

If the program is cancelled by AIA Tours or Criterion Travel, our tour operator, you will receive a full refund, without further obligation on our part. However, if trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, 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 AIA Tours or Criterion, or else, receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour

expenditures as AIA Tours and Criterion are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Neither AIA Tours nor Criterion shall have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing.

HEALTH

All participants should be in good health and capable of keeping up with an active group of travelers. By forwarding the deposit for passage, the passenger certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other passengers.

ITINERARY CHANGES

The itinerary and study leaders presented for this tour are subject to modification and change by AIA Tours and Criterion Travel. Every reasonable effort will be made to operate the program as planned; however, should unforeseen world events and conditions require the itinerary to be altered, AIA Tours and the tour operator reserve the right to do so for the safety and best interest of the group. Any extra expenses incurred in this situation are the responsibility of the participant.

RESPONSIBILITY

By submitting your deposit, you are bound to the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure. Due to space limitations these are not AIA Tours' complete Terms & Conditions, which are available available upon request, can be viewed on-line at www.aitours.org, and will be sent to you along with a Release of Liability requiring your signature.

California Seller of Travel Program
CST #2088800-40

Sicily

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NAME #1 (as it appears on passport) BIRTHDATE

NAME #2 (as it appears on passport) BIRTHDATE

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP or POSTAL CODE

HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE

E-MAIL(s)

PAYMENT

Please charge the deposit to my credit card (circle one):

VISA MC AMEX

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CARD # EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

SIGNATURE AS IT APPEARS ON CREDIT CARD DATE

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ (\$1,000 per person, payable to "Eos Passenger Account – AIA SicilyMaltaCRI5/21") to reserve _____ place(s) on

Sicily | A Circumnavigation aboard *Sea Cloud II*

SINGLE TRAVELERS

I prefer to have single accommodations (*limited availability*)
or I plan to share accommodations with:

or I'd like to know about roommates

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of January 29, 2021, I will pay the single rate.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Cabin category preference:

1st Choice _____ 2nd Choice _____

Bed Preference (not guaranteed): One bed Two beds

I/We have read the Terms & Conditions section of this brochure and understand and agree with them as stated herein:

SIGNATURE DATE

SIGNATURE DATE



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P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite 1, Walpole, NH 03608-0938

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