



ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
OF AMERICA TOURS

SICILY CIRCUMNAVIGATION

SAILING AROUND SICILY AND MALTA
ABOARD THE 47-CABIN *SEA CLOUD II*

JUNE 15-24, 2024

FEATURING ARCHAEOLOGIST
LAETITIA LA FOLLETTE





DEAR TRAVELER,

I invite you to **join Archaeological Institute of America lecturer and host Laetitia La Follette**, Professor of Greek and Roman Art and Architecture, **on a summertime 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 here 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** (with options to visit **Segesta, Erice, or Marsala**), **Palermo, Giardini Naxos** (for **Taormina or Mt. Etna**), and **Syracuse**. This itinerary also includes 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, pre-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, an archaeologist and Immediate Past President of the AIA; Elihu Rubin, an expert on architecture and urbanism; and Wendy Heller, a leading scholar in the field of Baroque music, will offer a series of **illustrated lectures and informal discussions** along the way. This cruise is being co-sponsored by other organizations so, with only 47 cabins aboard ship, I encourage you to reserve your preferred cabin today by contacting AIA Tours at aia@studytours.org or **(800) 748-6262**.

Sincerely,

Lauren Cummings

Education & Program Manager, AIA Tours
Archaeological Institute of America

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 Immediate Past President of the Archaeological Institute of America. She earned her B.A. in Classics at Harvard-Radcliffe and her Ph.D. 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 finishing 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.



Elihu Rubin is Associate Professor of Urbanism at the Yale School of Architecture with a secondary appointment in American Studies. His work bridges the urban disciplines, focusing on the built environments of nineteenth and twentieth-century cities, the history and theory of city planning, urban geography and the cultural landscape, transportation and mobility, architectural preservation and heritage planning, and the social life of urban space. He has a PhD in History of Architecture and Urbanism and a Master of City Planning degree with a focus on transportation, both from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BA in Ethics, Politics, and Economics from Yale.



Wendy Heller, Scheide Professor of Music History, is Chair of the Department of Music at Princeton University and also serves as Director of the Program in Italian Studies. Recognized as one of the leading scholars in the field of Baroque music, Heller has specialized in the study of 17th- and 18th-century opera from interdisciplinary perspectives, with special emphasis on gender and sexuality, art history, Italian literature, dance history, and the classical tradition. Author of the award-winning *Emblems of Eloquence: Opera and Women's Voices in Seventeenth-Century Venice* (Berkeley, 2003), Heller has published numerous essays on the music of Monteverdi, Strozzi, Cavalli, Purcell, and Handel, and is currently completing a book entitled *Animating Ovid: Opera and the Metamorphoses of Antiquity in Early Modern Italy*.



STREET MARKET, PALERMO



CORSO UMBERTO



MARSALA GRAPES

HIGHLIGHTS

- Customize your experience with a **menu of excursion options** geared to different interests in nearly every port: Valletta, Trapani, Palermo, Lipari, and Giardini Naxos.
- Discover **UNESCO World Heritage Sites**— Monreale's Cathedral, the Aeolian Archipelago of which we visit Lipari, Mount Etna, as well as the historic centers of Valletta, Palermo, and Syracuse.
- Sample a variety of **Palermo's famed street food** in Old Town Palermo.
- Experience the **archaeological wonders of Malta** with an opportunity to visit the Museum of Archaeology, plus St. John's Co-Cathedral.
- Delight in a **private reception with a nobleman** in his Baroque palazzo, dating back to the Middle Ages, and view a rare collection of etchings of ancient Syracuse and Sicily.

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.



ST. JOHN'S CO-CATHEDRAL

ITINERARY

SATURDAY—SUNDAY, JUNE 15-16

HOME / VALLETTA, MALTA

Depart the U.S. on an overnight flight to Valletta, Malta. Arrive on Sunday, June 16th, and transfer to the Grand Excelsior Hotel. After settling in, gather for a welcome orientation and reception in the evening. GRAND EXCELSIOR HOTEL (R)

MONDAY, JUNE 17

VALLETTA / EMBARKATION

Start the day with a morning lecture, followed by a choice of excursions. 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. Today choose from three excursion options: 1) An archaeological tour featuring the Tarxien Temples, Hypogeum (pending availability), and the National Museum of Archaeology, 2) An exploration of Malta's military history including the city's underground tunnels and the National War Museum at Fort St. Elmo, or 3) An architecture tour of Valletta highlighting St. John's Co-Cathedral and the new works of Renzo Piano, followed by lunch in a historic palazzo. Embark *Sea Cloud II* in the late afternoon and set sail for Sicily. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

AT SEA

Experience a full day under sail in the southern Mediterranean and sit back and observe deckhands as they scale masts reaching 180 feet high to set sail on one of the finest hand-sailed square-riggers of our age. Enjoy the continuation of the education program and take advantage of the ship's many amenities during free time between lectures. Tours of *Sea Cloud II* are offered, and, weather permitting, tenders are used to photograph the ship at sail. In the evening, attend the Captain's welcome reception. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,R,D)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

TRAPANI, SICILY, ITALY

Begin your exploration of Sicily with a visit to the well-preserved Doric Greek temple at Segesta, thought to have been designed by an Athenian architect. Then choose between: 1) An ascent to the medieval hilltop town of Erice, where an impressive Norman castle sits atop the ruins of a Venusian temple and tiny treasure-filled churches dot 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 and tasting. Later, enjoy an afternoon at sea with the continuation of the lecture program and a sailing opportunity, weather permitting. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

THURSDAY, JUNE 20

PALERMO

Begin today with a visit to Monreale, home to a stunning 12th-century cathedral (another UNESCO World Heritage Site) recognized as one of the world's greatest surviving examples of Norman architecture. Next, enjoy an exploration of diverse architectural treasures of Sicily's capital city, Palermo, featuring the Royal Palace of Palermo (Palazzo dei Normanni) with its dazzling Cappella Palatina (Royal Chapel), a designated UNESCO World Heritage Site. After lunch in atmospheric Old Town Palermo, spend the rest of the afternoon exploring its narrow and lively streets with a choice of three excursions: 1) Visit the 15th-century Palazzo Abatellis, now a museum housing such works as Renaissance painter Antonello da Messina's *Virgin Annunciate*, 2) Explore Palermo's famed Archaeological Museum, which features artifacts from the island's major sites, or 3) Enjoy a unique puppet show at The Antonio Pasqualino Puppet Museum of Palermo. SEA CLOUD II (B,L,D)

FRIDAY, JUNE 21

LIPARI, AEOLIAN ISLANDS

Sail to the small volcanic islet of Lipari, part of the Aeolian Islands, also a UNESCO World Heritage Site, whose cultural history stretches back 7,000 years. While ashore choose between: 1) An in-depth



TEMPLE AT SEGESTA



TARXIEN TEMPLE

walking tour of the town center with a visit to the Aeolian Archaeological Museum, or 2) A leisurely driving tour around the perimeter of the island with spectacular views of the other Aeolian volcanoes, ending in Lipari center. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon of sailing and lectures. At sunset, gather on deck and witness Stromboli's natural pyrotechnics. *SEA CLOUD II* (B,L,D)

SATURDAY, JUNE 22

GIARDINI NAXOS

This morning either: 1) Explore the old-world resort town of Taormina, home to a charming market, buzzing shops, and cafés on the fashionable pedestrian-only Corso Umberto, and an ancient Greek theater that has hosted performances for more than two thousand years, or 2) Weather permitting, visit the Silvestri Crater and ascend the slopes of Mt. Etna via cable car for stunning views from the summit of Europe's largest active volcano. This afternoon, return to the ship in time for lunch and set sail for Syracuse. *SEA CLOUD II* (B,L,D)

SUNDAY, JUNE 23

SYRACUSE

Founded around 734 B.C. by Greek Corinthians, Syracuse 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 and take in the sights and smells of the lively food market before strolling through beautiful alleyways and piazzas to the Piazza del Duomo, home to the city's monumental cathedral. In a nearby private palazzo dating back to the Middle Ages, enjoy a reception hosted by a nobleman and view a collection of etchings of ancient Syracuse and Sicily. Return to the ship and set sail for Malta in the afternoon. This evening, attend the Captain's farewell reception and enjoy dinner en route to Valletta.

SEA CLOUD II (B,L,R,D)

MONDAY, JUNE 24

VALLETTA, MALTA / DISEMBARKATION

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



GOZO TEMPLE

OPTIONAL PRE-TRIP EXTENSION IN MALTA

JUNE 13-16, 2024

BEYOND VALLETTA: MALTA'S SOUTHERN COAST & GOZO ISLAND

This two-night pre-trip extension offers the opportunity to experience the sites, stunning landscape, and local charm of this island nation beyond its capital city, including the megalithic complex of Hagar Qim, the fishing village of Marsaxlokk, and a day trip to the idyllic island of Gozo to see some of the oldest megalithic temples on Earth.

Further details and pricing will be sent to confirmed participants.



GENERAL INFORMATION

PROGRAM RATES INCLUDE

One deluxe hotel night and seven nights aboard Sea Cloud II • All meals and excursions as specified in the itinerary • Full program of briefings and lectures • Airport transfers on group arrival and departure dates • Baggage handling • **Gratuities to porters, waitstaff, guides, drivers and shipboard personnel** • Port charges • Entrance fees • Welcome and farewell cocktail receptions on board • **House wine, beer, and soft drinks with all group lunches and dinners** • Bottled water on motorcoaches • Criterion Tour Manager.

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. Further information about making flight arrangements will be sent to confirmed participants.

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 Sea Cloud II. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by AIA Tours or Criterion Travel, local staff, and host country laws. 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.

GROUP SIZE

This program is limited to 78 participants, including travelers from the Archaeological Institute of America, National Trust Tours, Princeton Journeys, and Yale Alumni Academy.

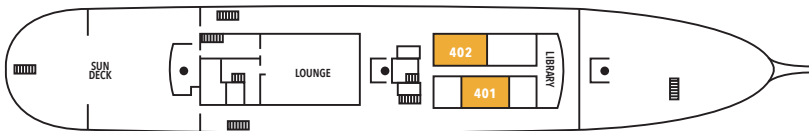
SEA CLOUD II

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. *Sea Cloud II* offers an intimate setting of just 47 beautifully appointed cabins, gracious common areas, world-class service, and 5-star dining.

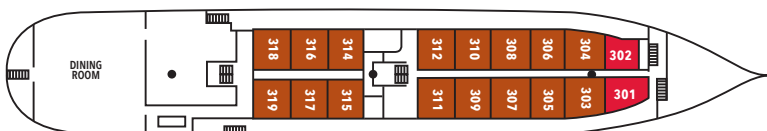
PROGRAM RATES

Rates are per person, based on double occupancy unless otherwise specified.

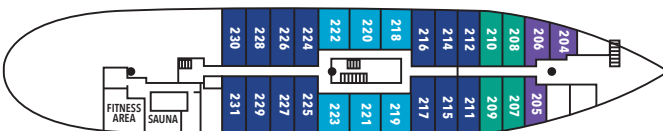
CATEGORY		DOUBLE	SINGLE
1	CATEGORY 1, CABIN DECK Upper and lower twin beds; 150 sq. ft., two portholes	\$5,990	\$10,490
2	CATEGORY 2, CABIN DECK Twins or queen bed; 204 sq. ft., two portholes	\$7,990	\$12,490
3	CATEGORY 3, CABIN DECK Twins or queen bed; 215 sq. ft., two portholes	\$9,490	\$15,490
4	CATEGORY 4, CABIN DECK Queen bed; 226 sq. ft., three portholes	\$10,990	—
5	CATEGORY 5, PROMENADE DECK Queen bed; 215 sq. ft., panorama windows	\$11,990	—
6	CATEGORY 6, PROMENADE DECK Twins or queen bed; 247 sq. ft., panorama windows	\$12,990	—
7	CATEGORY 7, LIDO DECK King bed; 290 sq. ft., panorama windows	\$15,990	—



LIDO DECK



PROMENADE DECK



CABIN DECK



SICILY CIRCUMNAVIGATION SAILING AROUND SICILY AND MALTA

JUNE 15-24, 2024

ABOARD THE 47-CABIN SEA CLOUD II

RESERVATION FORM

To reserve your space, please complete this form and send it to: AIA Tours, P.O. Box 938, 47 Main Street, Suite One, Walpole, NH 03608-0938. Deposit checks should be made payable to "Eos AIA-SicilyMaltaCRI6/24." You may also call AIA Tours at 800-748-6262 or 603-756-2884. Fax: 603-756-2922. Email: aia@studytours.org. Website: www.ariatours.org.

CONTACT INFORMATION (please print)

NAME #1 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT) DATE OF BIRTH

NAME #2 (AS IT APPEARS ON PASSPORT) DATE OF BIRTH

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

HOME PHONE MOBILE PHONE

EMAIL #1

EMAIL #2

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program?

Yes, _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person), payable to "Eos AIA-SicilyMaltaCRI6/24," for _____ place(s) on Sicily Circumnavigation.

Please charge my deposit of \$ _____ (\$1,000 per person) to my

VISA MasterCard American Express

NAME ON CREDIT CARD

CREDIT CARD NUMBER EXP. DATE SECURITY CODE

CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE

ACCOMMODATIONS (not guaranteed)

Cabin Category Preference: 1st _____ 2nd _____ Bed Preference King / Queen Twins

SINGLE TRAVELERS (choose one)

I prefer to have single accommodations. (limited availability) I plan to share accommodations with: _____

I'd like to know about roommates. I am a non-smoker smoker

I understand that if a roommate cannot be found by the final payment deadline of February 16, 2024 I will pay the single rate.

I/We have read the tour information section of the brochure and agree to the Terms and Conditions stated therein.

SIGNATURE #1 DATE

SIGNATURE #2 DATE

PROGRAM RATES DO NOT INCLUDE

U.S. domestic and international airfare • Passport/visa expenses • Medical expenses and immunizations • Private transfers or airport transfers outside of group arrival and departure dates • Travel and trip cancellation insurance • 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.

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 tour are included in this brochure. Information about travel insurance will be sent to confirmed participants.

A NOTE ABOUT RATES

Tour rates 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.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

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 (February 16, 2024). We accept checks, payable to "Eos AIA-SicilyMaltaCRI6/24" 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. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person admin fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of booking; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the February 16, 2024 final payment deadline: All payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. 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 and/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 participant certifies that he/she does not have any physical or other condition or disability that would create a hazard for him/herself or other participants.

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 upon request, can be viewed on-line at www.ariatours.org, and will be sent to you along with a Release of Liability requiring your signature.

California Seller of Travel Program CST #2088800-40



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