



The Sicilian

three week Cultural Cruise

A 21 day, 600 nautical mile summer sailing voyage around Sicily during September 2017.

Dates: meet at beginning of September (9-10).

Maximum number of boats participating 15, maximum number of people 60.



What to expect at the *Isles of Gods*

A mix of cruising in company and solo exploration spiced with social and cultural get togethers, ashore and rendezvous afloat. Explore bays, discover hidden anchorages and revel in volcanic scenery. Whether sharing a sip of wine in the cockpit, enjoying the seafood, the Sicilian cannoli and gelato or visiting a village or an ancient town, the Cultural Cruise is full of opportunities to meet fellow cruisers and enjoy the most welcome local hospitality. We'll visit wineries, the salt mines, some Greek temples and volcanic landscapes at sunset.

People like you that love to sail the Mediterranean and visit onshore sites will get into the marvelous *Nero d'Avola* wine and eat delicious *Caponata* and red tuna while ending the meal with a gelato at *Pistacchio di Bronte*.

Italians are one of the most pleasure-loving cultures but be advised that travelling through Italy is easier when having someone who can guide you.

We will take care to communicate clearly with you and locals, while assisting you and organizing and guiding the voyage. In the event of technical issues or any type we will be there to help you.

The Sicilian edition takes place only every other year since other similar cruises might take place in Tuscany, Sardinia and there are plans for a Cultural Cruise Round Italy edition. Cruises might be either all-inclusive or with pay per use attractions. The boat owner or skipper participation in the land events can be included in the boat price formula.



Itinerary – September 2017

9 September START

We gather at Marina Di Ragusa, a Sicilian baroque architecture area and one of the best olive oil producing areas in the world.

Yacht port of Marina Di Ragusa.

Opening evening welcome and organization briefing info; day tour and visits to Donna Fugata Castle, Ragusa Ibla and Scicli, all UNESCO Baroque architecture heritage. Modica, the Aztecs chocolate heritage town, can't be left out of the tour.

3 nights / 2 days

12 September LEG 1 (64 nm)

Sailing towards Archimede's native town of Siracusa.

Port of Siracusa

Sunset get together and day tours and visits. We will see the Etna volcano activity at sunset, another UNESCO heritage. We'll visit the town of Noto or Avola and then briefing is a must.

3 nights / 2 days



15 September LEG 2 (120 – 130 nm)

Sailing towards one of the most gorgeous volcanic group of islands

Eolie Islands, a UNESCO world heritage site.

You will have a chance to explore on your own or together with the group, having the constant presence of volcanic panoramas where there is an eruption every hour. Days for free cruise.

5 nights / 4 days

20 September LEG 3 (35 nm)

Towards one of the coolest coastal towns near Palermo.

Port of Cefalù.

We'll rendezvous all from Eolie Islands.

1 night / ½ day

21 September LEG 4 (91 nm)

Towards the most beautiful Marine Natural Park of Sicily.

Egadi Islands.

Visits and anchorage at one of the most important, quality and quantity wise, tuna fish sea in the world. You will see gorgeous colors of the water at anchor; and old tuna factories ashore. *La Mattanza*, use to be an antic and effective way of fishing big quantity of tuna invented by a shepherd.

3 nights / 2 days

24 September LEG 5 (15 nm)

Towards the historic town where Marsala connection Wine was invented by the British and tuna cans where made for the first time in Italy by the Florio family. We will visit the Saline or salt mines with a spectacular sunset you will remember forever.

Marsala, Tour and Visits

1 day / 1 night

25 September LEG 6 (67 – 70 nm)

The Tunisian influence and Passito Wine Stop Sail to Port of Pantelleria Island.

Evening briefing and day tours and visits.

3 nights / 2 days

28-30 September LEG 7 (96 nm)

The Romantic Stop and The Greeks *back to Sicily.

Port Marina Cala del Sole (Licata)

Day tour and visits to the Valley of Temples by night. The majestic Greek city was one of the main three build by the Greeks.

Marina di Cala del Sole end of voyage.

Evening arrivederci dinner.

3 nights / 2 day

Circa total of 600 nm

A total of 21 days cruise (3 weeks)

Overall route and daily schedule are weather dependent.





Cruising Sicily advice

The joys of a Culture Cruise Round include exploring places and islands, testing navigation and anchorage skills with sudden wind changes and sitting to your anchor in a wild bay. This requires self-reliance, some preparation and forethought, and a suitably equipped boat.

Anchoring

It is essential that you have at least two anchors of sufficient weight and a working windlass. CQR anchors are NOT recommended – much better we recommend Delta, Spade and Rocna. Having a choice of anchors will extend your choice of anchorages. Chain of appropriate size is better than rope (exp. 39 ft. boat with a 10 mm chain size) as it will stop the boat 'roving' in the rocks and when in the same small area boats can rotate in shorter circumferences but if you have a rope rode, an anchor chum or angel with extra weight along the line can help. A dinghy with an outboard motor will be necessary sometimes for going ashore.

Chartering

Chartering could be an option for the cruise, and there are a number of charter companies offering a wide range of vessels in bareboat and skippered charter in local ports or marinas. If you are unused to commanding a boat, a skipper or a skippered charter may be the answer. We can provide you with suggestions of charter companies and skippers located in the area that best suit you.

If you are chartering from a different place, don't forget to factor-in a few days for the trip from the gather place, and other days to return.

Charts

We strongly suggest having up-to-date local GPS charts.

Airports and ground transport for crew in Sicily

To start and end, Comiso is the Low Cost airport near by Marina di Ragusa, and Catania is the next choice. The other two airports are located in Palermo and Trapani, in case you need to drop off a crew member.

Public ground transport in some places is really good but in many cases we suggest private company buses available for a cost from 20 to 50 euros per couple depending on distance. Taxis are an expensive option.

Food suggestions

Olive oil, tuna, capers, wine and spices are excellent and so are many other local goodies. When you have the opportunity we recommend you make a good provision for your onboard trip back home, you'll enjoy it remembering the Round Sicily Culture Cruise when you return home.





Cruising Sicily prices

	CATs	Boat 39ft	Boats 40 – 45ft	Boats 46 – 53ft	Extra crew member
Price per boat in CCRS 3 weeks (ashore events for skipper not included)	1.5 times	€1,000.00	€1,100.00	€1,200.00	€400.00
Price per boat in CCRS 3 weeks (ashore events for skipper included)	1.5 times	€1,400.00	€1,500.00	€1,600.00*	€400.00

* Includes: briefing, welcome and farewell events, ports, tours and visits for each boat skipper.

Chartering

Chartering could be an option for the cruise. We can provide you with a charter and skippered boat or we can suggest a number of charter companies offering a wide range of vessels in bareboat charter in local ports or marinas. If you are unused to commanding a boat, a skipper or a skippered charter may be the answer.

If you are chartering yourself from a different place, don't forget to factor-in a few days for the trip from the gather place, and other days to return.

For personal requests please contact us.

	Charter Boats 39– 45ft	Included
Price per person per day	€178 (minimum 7 days)	Skipper, on land events, marinas and ports

All figures correct at time of going to press.



Excursions

For crew members wishing to participate in onshore events there will be a charge of €400 per adult or youth (children under 10 go free), this will include land transport and admission to sites/museums.

Contact

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