

Ports & Excursions



Sicily (Palermo), Italy

Palermo is a cultural feast, a fascinating combination of East and West, Arab and Norman that is quite unlike any other European city on the Mediterranean. A simple stroll can serve to illustrate Palermo's rich heritage. The Quattro Canti is the great square at the heart of the city. A short walk past its 17th-century palazzos and fountains brings the traveler to the Palazzo dei Normanni. Begun by Arab emirs in the 9th century, the Palazzo was finished by the island's Norman conquerors. The Palazzo's stone arches and buttresses stand in stark contrast to its Palatine Chapel. There elaborate tile work and mosaics lend mute testimonies to the Islamic and Byzantine influences that a Iso shaped Palermo's culture. The city abounds in such colorful sights, from the neo-classical Teatro Massimo, one of the largest opera houses in Europe, to the catacombs beneath the Capuchin convent, where thousands of mummified bodies lie in eternal rest.

Points of Interest

1 Erice

This centuries-old town looks out over the Aegadian Islands and features labyrinthine streets, a Norman castle, the 14th-century Mother Church, and a museum full of ancient artifacts.

2 Ruins of Segesta

Reminiscent of the Acropolis, the Greek ruins at Segesta include a well-preserved Doric temple with 36 columns and a great amphitheater that opens to the pastoral Sicilian landscape.

3 Cathedral of Palermo

An amalgamation of different architectural styles, this incredible cathedral complex features intricate design on its facade, and includes royal tombs, a crypt, a treasury and a chapel.

4 Duomo di Monreale

This 12th-century cathedral was designed to the very finest detail, with intricate mosaics covering the walls, ceiling and floor, Romanesque bronze doors, and a well-preserved Byzantine cloister.

5 Capuchin Catacombs

Not for the faint of heart, this macabre tourist attraction was once a sought-after destination for the deceased, and today contains the mummified remains of some 8,000 men, women and children.

6 Palazzo dei Normanni

Home of the Sicilian parliament, this structure once served the Kings of Sicily and contains a richly-mosaicked chapel, a large collection of Islamic paintings and centuries-old Royal Apartments.

7 Teatro Massimo

Completed in 1897, this famed neoclassical opera house is the largest in all of Italy, seating audiences of up to 1,350. It also served as the setting for the final scenes of Godfather Part III.

8 L'Antica Masseria

Nestled in the pastoral Sicilian countryside, surrounded by rolling green hills, this elegant hotel features a family chapel, cobblestone paths and a fine restaurant. It often plays host to weddings.

Special Child Pricing Available!

Children age 12 and younger, savings up to 50%. For actual pricing information, click on tour title or Reserve button.

Sightseeing & City Tours



Cathedral of Palermo & Duomo di Monreale
PMO-205 | Sicily (Palermo), Italy | Group Size: 48

You will visit: **3 4 S** 4 hours from \$59.95

View the remarkable amalgam of Arabic and Norman influences on Palermo with this narrated tour. Drive through the city's historic district. Visit Cathedral of Palermo which has alternately been a pagan temple, a mosque and a Christian church. Tour Duomo di Monreale, considered the finest Norman building in Sicily.



Capuchin Catacombs & Mysteries
PMO-210 | Sicily (Palermo), Italy | Group Size: 50

You will visit: **5 M** 3.5 hours from \$59.95

The beauty and dark drama of Palermo's history are revealed during this half-day, guided excursion. View architectural highlights. Then descend into the famous Catacombs of the Capuchin Friars ? home to 8,000 mummified bodies. Then proceed to the Oratories of Santa Cita and San Domenico, boasting magnificent stuccoes that depict the Mysteries of the Rosary.



City Drive
PMO-290 | Sicily (Palermo), Italy | Group Size: 50

You will see: **6 7 E** 3 hours from \$49.95

Orient yourself to the wonders of Palermo with this leisurely tour that requires little walking. Relax during a narrated drive to see the historic old city, majestic palaces, breathtaking monuments, a medieval gate and Italy's largest opera house. Enjoy free time to shop at the city's most popular beach resort.



Walking Tour of Cefalu
PMO-380 | Sicily (Palermo), Italy | Group Size: 50

S 4.5 hours from \$69.95

An up close and personal, guided walking tour is the perfect way to truly explore the medieval seaside city of Cefalu. Visit a 12th-century cathedral. Marvel at a medieval bathhouse and a 14th-century mansion.

Special Interests



Cooking Demonstration at L'Antica Masseria
PMO-315 | Sicily (Palermo), Italy | Group Size: 50

You will visit:

8

You will see:

7



6.25
hours

from \$169.95

Experience Sicily's traditional cuisine during this excursion to L'Antica Masseria, an 18th century farmhouse for a cooking lesson conducted by the charming Baroness Di Salvo. Tour the estate, participate in demonstrations and enjoy a delicious lunch featuring the prepared dishes. See highlights of Palermo's historic old city during a narrated drive.