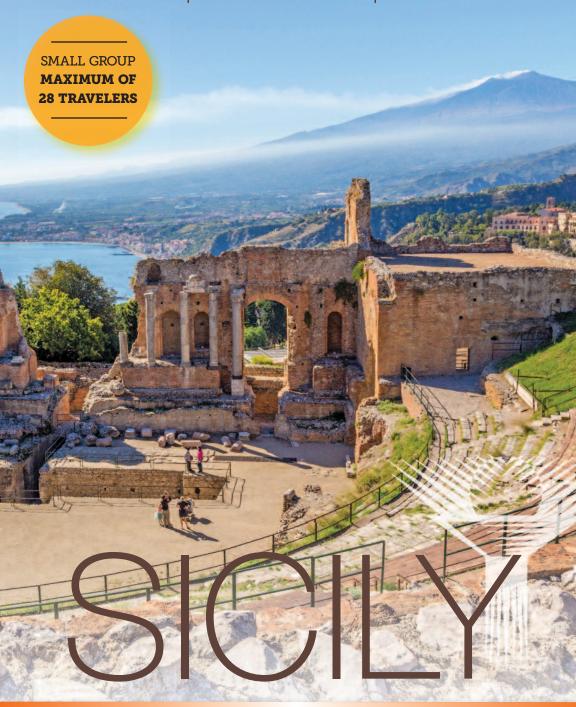
# PALERMO | CALTAGIRONE | SYRACUSE

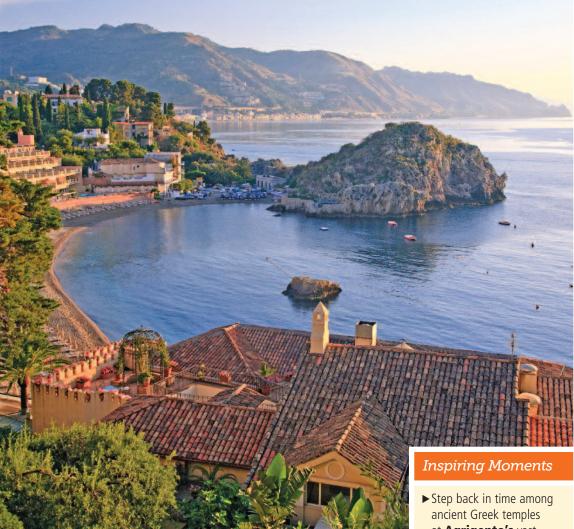


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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
MAY 30-JUNE 8, 2017

Other dates available upon request



# A World Apart

The story of travel involves more than a ticket and a passport. It should weave together discovery, education and humanity, the best elements of any compelling tale. Your personal travel story begins with our commitment to delivering authentic experiences with local people.

The incomparable value of your journey lies in the personalized care you receive from your Travel Director and the knowledge you gain from expert guides and lecturers, who call this area home.

By eliminating logistical worries, your multilingual Travel Director allows you to immerse yourself comfortably in your surroundings. This high-caliber professional makes you feel safe and important by creating a convivial, welcoming atmosphere.

The other important characters in this story are the guides and lecturers, whose regional expertise shines in their insider perspective and commentary.

With these specialists at your side, become intimately engaged in the rhythm of the community, adding another memorable chapter to the rich story of your life.

- at **Agrigento's** vast archaeological site.
- ► See the lavish world of a fourth-century Roman nobleman in the detailed mosaics of Villa Romana del Casale.
- ► Experience the **Sicilian** countryside and all its bounty at an agriturismo hotel.
- ► Enjoy Sicilian hospitality as you tour and taste at a family-run olive farm.
- ► Gaze at the historic harbor of Ortygia from the chic rooftop bar of your Syracuse hotel.
- ► Learn to prepare pizza the Sicilian way at a private cooking lesson.
- ► Take in a **stunning view** of Mount Etna while visiting the popular resort town Taormina.

Above: Taormina



Dear Alumni and Friends,

Discover the intriguing island of Sicily. Known for its natural beauty, well-preserved Greek and Roman ruins and baroque architecture, it is a cultural crossroads set in the glittering Mediterranean Sea.

Spend three nights in Palermo, two in Caltagirone and three in Syracuse to explore Sicily from cosmopolitan coast to quaint countryside. A special feature of this program is the time we will spend in and around Caltagirone; the heartland of Sicily has so much for us to see and experience!

Your expertly planned itinerary includes special cultural experiences, behind-the-scenes excursions and preferred access to popular attractions. Along with the security and ease of group travel, get an in-depth look at the local culture and history through exclusive educational content.

Space is limited in this popular program, so please make your reservations without delay!

Sincerely,

Stan Key '72

Director of Alumni Affairs

Stan Key

Executive Director of UK Alumni Association

Travel insurance is strongly recommended. You will receive information from the UK Alumni Association concerning travel insurance after you book your trip.

800-323-7373

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xplore enchanting Sicily to see firsthand how
Western, Islamic and Byzantine cultures come
together on this historic Mediterranean
island. Begin in Palermo, a showplace of different
architectural styles. Continue to an agriturismo hotel
in Caltagirone to experience Sicily's countryside and
cuisine, then travel to Syracuse to view stunning
Greek and Roman ruins as well as baroque palaces
and churches. Your Sicilian adventure unlocks this
fascinating island time capsule filled with 3,000 years
of civilization's treasures.

### DAY ONE

#### IN TRANSIT

Depart your gateway city for Palermo, Italy.

DAY TWO

# PALERMO, ITALY

Upon arrival in Palermo, transfer ★ and check in to the Grand Hotel Et Des Palmes.

Tonight, join your fellow travelers for a Welcome Reception and Dinner.

DAY THREE

BIL

# PALERMO | MONREALE

**Educational Focus:** *Sicily, a Country Within a Country.* 

**Excursion:** *Palermo and Monreale.* Visit Palermo's Cathedral. The church's architecture blends Gothic, Norman, and Moorish styles, mirroring the city's history. Take in the glittering

gold and gemstone mosaics inside the Palatine Chapel in the Norman Palace as well as the Islamic-influenced domes of St. John of the Hermits, a 12th-century Norman church, and the neoclassical Teatro Massimo. Feast your senses during a tour of a local market stocked with the region's just-picked produce and fresh catch. In Monreale, view Santa Maria la Nuova's detailed mosaics

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy the flavors of Sicilian cuisine with lunch at a Palermo restaurant.

DAY FOUR

and hilltop vistas.

BIL

#### SEGESTA | ERICE

**Excursion:** Segesta. Ancient Segesta was home





to both the indigenous Elymians and the Greeks, who settled there in the sixth century B.C. Explore the well-preserved ruins of this city, including its spectacular Doric temple and grand theater carved into the side of Mount Barbaro.

**Educational Focus and Local Flavor:** *Meet the People.* At a traditional family olive farm, learn how olive oil is made by the farmers themselves, taste the delicious oils and enjoy a taste of local dishes during a buffet lunch.

**Excursion:** *Erice.* Like Segesta, Erice was home to the Elymians. This hilltop city is known for its Phoenician walls and two castles. See the Norman Duomo, a Romanesque masterpiece.

Educational Focus: Mafia, Past and Present.

DAY FIVE

BILID

# AGRIGENTO | CALTAGIRONE

**Excursion:** *Agrigento.* In this ancient city founded by Greek colonists in the sixth century B.C., step back in time at the Valley of the Temples, one of Europe's most impressive classical sites. Walk through the Temple of Hercules, the Doric Temple of Concord, and the unfinished Temple of Jupiter.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy lunch near Agrigento.

Continue to Caltagirone in the heart of the Sicilian countryside and check in to Colle San Mauro, an agriturismo hotel. Take a scenic ride in an open-air vehicle through the property's orchards, gardens, and vineyards before feasting on a farm-to-table dinner featuring home-grown produce and wine made from the farm's vineyards.

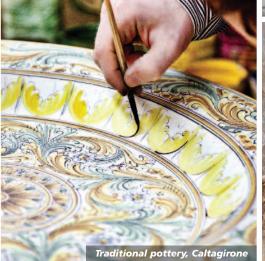
DAY SIX

BID

# CALTAGIRONE

**Excursion:** *Inner Sicily.* Witness Sicily's quiet countryside, dotted citrus and fig trees and prickly pear cacti, as you travel through the Val di Noto to visit Modica, Ragusa and Caltagirone, three of eight late baroque towns in the Val di Noto that were rebuilt in spectacular fashion after two earthquakes devasted them in 1693. The rebuilding effort resulted in a great achievement of urban planning and baroque design.





After it was rebuilt, Modica had two town centers. The original town sat atop a hill, but the new town was built below it, and it is home to impressive baroque cathedrals.

The medieval town of Ragusa also has an old town and a new town. The new town has a bevy of baroque architecture: nine churches and seven palazzi, among the new buildings constructed after the quakes. Stroll through the square and gardens in the old town. Visit St. George's Cathedral.

After lunch on your own in Ragusa, end the afternoon in Caltagirone, which also has an impressive collection of pre- and post-earthquake architecture. The town also is known for its hand-painted majolica ceramics. At the Church of Santa Maria de Monte, see the 142-step staircase with a unique painted ceramic riser between each step.

**Local Flavor:** Sample more farm-fresh dishes during dinner at Colle San Mauro.



DAY SEVEN

3

PIAZZA ARMERINA | SYRACUSE Educational Focus: Roman Mosaics.

**Excursion:** *Piazza Armerina and Villa Romana del Casale.* A magnificent example of a Roman country house, Villa del Casale dates from the fourth century. Visit the villa to wonder at its more than 12,000 square feet of Roman mosaics, considered the best example of the art form remaining in the world.

Continue to Syracuse to check in to Des Étrangers Hotel & Spa.

**Excursion:** *Syracuse.* Stroll through the showcase of medieval and baroque design in the historic city center of Syracuse on the island of Ortygia. Then, tour the extensive Greek and Roman ruins in Syracuse's Neaopolis Archaeological Park. Visit the Greek theater



where Aeschylus saw his later tragedies performed in the fifth century B.C., the wellpreserved Roman amphitheater and more.

TAORMINA

BIL

**Excursion:** *Taormina.* Tour this fashionable resort town, a showplace of 14th- and 15th-century palaces set high on Mount Tauro above the sparkling Ionian Sea. Explore Taormina's Greek Theater, with views of Mount Etna as dramatic as the plays performed on its ancient stage.

**Local Flavor:** Enjoy a pizza-making lesson, followed by an authentic Sicilian pizza lunch at a family-run restaurant.

**Independent Exploration:** The rest of the afternoon is yours to enjoy Taormina at leisure.

DAY NINE

SYRACUSE

BID

#### DIRACOSE

**Independent Exploration:** The day is at leisure to explore on your own.

**ELECTIVE** | *Catania*. Visit the historic city of Catania, which is part of the Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Take in the highlights of this port city, including Roman ruins, baroque churches and the markets of Piazza del Duomo. Enjoy lunch at your leisure, perhaps sampling Catania's plentiful and popular street food.



Then visit the Historic Museum of the Landing in Sicily 1943 to learn about the Allied arrival there during World War II.

This evening, share highlights of your Sicilian adventure with fellow travelers at Farewell Reception and Dinner.

DAY TEN

В

# IN TRANSIT

After breakfast, transfer ★ to the Catania airport for the return flight to your gateway city.

**Note:** Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.

♣ Provided for AHI FlexAir participants

BILID denotes included breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

© Elective experiences available at an additional cost

# | ACCOMMODATIONS |



GRAND HOTEL ET DES PALMES PALERMO







COLLE SAN MAURO CALTAGIRONE





DES ÉTRANGERS HOTEL & SPA SYRACUSE



Our travel experts have selected these luxury properties, each in a prime location, for your comfort. Details in the design and décor celebrate the local culture and enhance the ambience of each hotel. Their restaurants feature menus of elegantly prepared local and international cuisine. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to maximize the enjoyment of your stay.



neserve j	our trip to	Sicily to	uay:	entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning;
Trip #:6-23049W				excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; all items of
Send to: Sicily The University of	Kentucky Alumni As	sociation		a strictly personal nature.  MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL The right is retained to decline to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental
c/o AHI Travel				condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the
International Tow 8550 W. Bryn Ma Chicago, IL 6063	wr Avenue			trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommo- dations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, includ-
Please contact AHI Travel a make a reservation.		questions rega	arding this trip or to	ing without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.
Full Legal Name (exactly as	s it appears on passr	port)		AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are
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Title First	Middle	Last	Date of Birth	in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After
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I/we reserve the Land Pro		he AHI FleyAir	to Palermo Italy	modations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of
with a return from Catani		ie Al II i lexali	to Falerino, Italy,	hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details
				and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing,
Departure City  ☐ Please contact me regarding air options.				are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; how-
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I request assistance in se available at this time, and found, I understand the s	d pay the single supp	olement. Should		self/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this con- tract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies con- cerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event,
Reservations are subject to				during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole con- tract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser
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payment in full. Final payme Visa, Discover or Amex. Ma			k, MasterCard,	\$250 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year
Eligibility: Membership in the	e UK Alumni Associa	ation is a requir	rement for	following. Cancellation from 120 days to 76 days prior to departure will result in forfeiture of 10% of the entire cost of the trip per person;
participation in this program. One membership is required for every family.				75-30 days, 50% of the trip cost per person; cancellation from 29 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire
Alumni, friends of the University and parents are welcome. Annual memberships are \$45 for single or \$55 for joint. If you are not a current member of the UK				cost of the trip. Injury, illness, trip delays and lost baggage are a few of the things that can cost you more than just your vacation. They can
Alumni Association, please Association for the appropri	enclose a separate of	check payable	to the UK Alumni	also cost a lot of extra money you hadn't planned on spending.  That's why the University of Kentucky Alumni Association recommends our Alumni Travel Protection Plan to all alumni and/or members who
Enclosed is a deposit of place(s).	(\$600 pp red	quired) to reser	ve	travel. This plan not only insures your vacation but, more importantly, it provides the peace of mind you deserve while traveling. You're cov- ered from the moment you leave home until the moment you return. If your vacation is cancelled for a covered reason, you'll get your
Accept my check made p	=			money back - money to reschedule your vacation! The University of Kentucky Alumni Association recommends travel insurance to all
☐ Charge my: ☐ MasterCar	d □ Visa □ Discover	☐ Amex		alumni and/or members who travel. For details on travel protection coverage, please contact the Alumni Association toll-free at 800-269-
Card #				2586 or visit www.ukalumni.net/travel. All cancellations must be sub- mitted in writing to AHI Travel. CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS-
	_		,	Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air
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				All prices listed are in USD. CST Registration No. 2028271-
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# LAND PROGRAM

# May 31-June 8, 2017

Full Price Special Savings Special Price\*
\$3,245 \$250 \$2,995\*

\*Special Price valid if booked by the date found on the address panel. VAT is an additional \$295 per person.

All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Single accommodations are an additional \$595 (limited availability).

# Let us arrange your flights!

# May 30-June 8, 2017

★ AHI FlexAir | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- ► a **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- ▶ arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights
- ► **flexibility** to change or cancel your reservations without penalty up to 60 days before departure on most flights
- ▶ discounted prices for business-class upgrades
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- ► flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms

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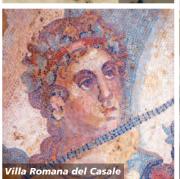


# | UNESCO |

Four of Italy's UNESCO World Heritage sites are featured in this comprehensive program:

- 1. Archaeological Area of Agrigento
- 2. Late Baroque Towns of the Val di Noto
- 3. Villa Romana del Casale
- 4. Arab-Norman
  Palermo and the
  Cathedral Church
  of Monreale







# | INCLUDED FEATURES |

# **ACCOMMODATIONS**

(With baggage handling.)

- Three nights in Palermo, Italy, at the Grand Hotel et Des Palmes.
- Two nights in Caltagirone at the Colle San Mauro.
- Three nights in Syracuse at the Des Étrangers Hotel & Spa.

# **TRANSFERS**

 All deluxe motor coach transfer(s) in the Land/Cruise Program and baggage handling.

### **MEALS**

- Enjoy an extensive meal program, including eight breakfasts, four lunches and four dinners. Tea or coffee is included with all meals, plus wine with dinner.
- Sample authentic regional specialties at local restaurants.
- Attend a special Welcome Reception and Dinner.
- Gather for a Farewell Reception and Dinner.

# YOUR EXCITING TRAVEL PROGRAM

- **Informative educational programs,** presented by local experts, will enhance your insight into the region.
- Personal VOX listening devices allow you to hear every word from your expert, Englishspeaking guides.
- Tipping of excursion guides and drivers.
- The following excursions:
  - Explore the cities of Palermo and Monreale.
  - Discover charming Segesta and Erice.
  - Delve into the ancient history of Agrigento.
  - Experience life in the Sicilian heartland by staying at an agriturismo hotel and visiting the towns of the Val di Noto.
  - Admire the extraordinary ancient mosaics at a Roman villa.
  - Stroll through the ancient city of Syracuse.
  - See Mount Etna in the distance as you explore the town of Taormina.
  - Learn how to make authentic Sicilian-style pizza at a family-owned restaurant.

## **AHI TRAVEL EXPERTISE**

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

#### Before you go:

► TRAVEL CONSULTANTS | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they quide you through the reservation process.



- ▶ PASSENGER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- ▶ **TRAVEL INFORMATION** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to fully prepare you for your journey.

#### Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- ► TRAVEL DIRECTOR | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- ▶ **EXPERT GUIDES** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for their country with you.
- ▶ **LECTURERS** | Coming from all walks of life, our entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



Alumni Association

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