



National Trust *for* Historic Preservation

**National Trust Tours**

# **SICILY CIRCUMNAVIGATION**

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

**JUNE 15-24, 2024**





## DEAR NATIONAL TRUST TRAVELER,

I invite you to join us **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 as expert study leaders 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, we encourage you to **reserve your space today** by contacting our office at **(888) 484-8785** today!

With kind regards,

Meg Annacone-Poretz  
Director, National Trust Tours

## 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 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.



**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 **archeological wonders of Malta** with opportunity to visit the Tarxien Temples, the National Museum of Archeology, and St. John's 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.

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**THE NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION** is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities. For more information, visit the Trust's website at [www.savingplaces.org](http://www.savingplaces.org) or phone (800) 944-6847 or (202) 588-6000.



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, MALTA

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) archaeological tour featuring the Tarxien Temples, Hypogeum (pending availability), and the National Museum of Archaeology 2) exploration of Malta's military history including the city's underground tunnels and the National War Museum at Fort St. Elmo, or 3) 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

Begin your exploration of Sicily with a visit to the well-preserved Doric Greek temple of 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 Palantina (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 OF SEGESTA



HYPOGEUM

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 in between lectures. At sunset, gather on deck and witness 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, SICILY

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 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)



MARSAXLOKK, MALTA



HARBOR OF GOZO ISLAND

### 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 cobbled 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 National Trust for Historic Preservation 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.

### 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

## 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.

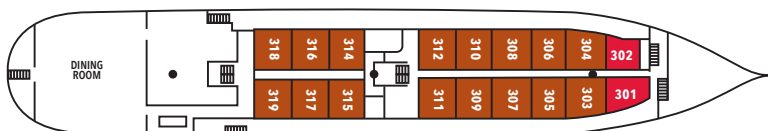
### PROGRAM RATES

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

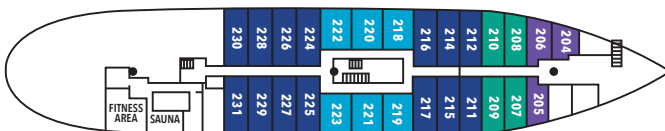
CATEGORY		DOUBLE	SINGLE
<b>1</b>	CATEGORY 1, CABIN DECK Upper and lower twin beds; 150 sq. ft., two portholes	\$5,990	\$10,490
<b>2</b>	CATEGORY 2, CABIN DECK Twins or queen bed; 204 sq. ft., two portholes	\$7,990	\$12,490
<b>3</b>	CATEGORY 3, CABIN DECK Twins or queen bed; 215 sq. ft., two portholes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



**LIDO DECK**



**PROMENADE DECK**



**CABIN DECK**

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**  
 National Trust Tours strongly recommends the purchase of trip cancellation insurance, which is available for coverage of expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to covered illness or accident. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. USI Travel Insurance Services offers a plan designed specifically for National Trust Tours travelers, providing coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical, and more. Plus, you can upgrade your plan with Cancel For Any Reason (CFAR) coverage for the utmost flexibility. CFAR allows you to cancel your trip for ANY reason at all and be reimbursed up to 75% of your pre-paid, non-refundable trip costs (conditions apply, see plan for details). To purchase travel insurance today, call: (800) 937-1387. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785.

Complete Terms and Conditions including a Statement of Responsibility will be made available at time of registration, or in advance upon request. A signed "Terms & Conditions, Release from Liability, Assumption of Risk and Binding Arbitration Clause" is required from each applicant prior to participation on the tour.

**RESERVATIONS & PAYMENTS**  
 A deposit of \$1,000 per person is required to reserve space on this program. If you have questions, or to register using a credit card (preferred method), please call (888) 484-8785 or email info@nationaltrusttours.com. Final payment deadline is February 16, 2024. For those who register on or after February 16, 2024, full payment is due upon registration. Final payment must be made by check or bank transfer.

**CANCELLATIONS & REFUNDS**  
 Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions set forth below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing and confirmed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Deposits are

refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received within 30 days of reservation; after that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. Afterfinal payment deadline on February 16, 2024, all payments are 100% nonrefundable, regardless of booking date. Trip cancellation insurance is strongly recommended. NOTE: Neither the National Trust for Historic Preservation nor Criterion Travel, the tour operator, accepts liability for any airline cancellation penalties incurred with the purchase of non-refundable tickets.

**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 National Trust for Historic Preservation 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, National Trust for Historic Preservation 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.

**ELIGIBILITY**  
 National Trust for Historic Preservation tours are open to members only. Membership dues for 2023/2024 are \$30 for family and \$20 for individual membership. The minimum age limit for the program is 14. Children must pay the full price, and those under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. There is no maximum age limit. PLEASE NOTE: Participants must be in excellent health and able to participate in tour activities. Any physical condition that may require special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation. If you have any doubt about your ability to participate fully due to health conditions or disabilities, contact the National Trust at (888) 484- 8785 or (202) 588-6300. The National Trust for Historic Preservation and Criterion Travel reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of this tour at any time. In such case, the refund will be limited to the recoverable cost of unused tour services.

California Seller of Travel  
 Program CST #2088800-40



**SICILY CIRCUMNAVIGATION**  
 SAILING AROUND SICILY AND MALTA

**JUNE 15-24, 2024**

**ABOARD THE 47-CABIN  
 SEA CLOUD II**

**RESERVATION FORM**

For more information or to register by phone (preferred method of registration), please call **National Trust Tours at (888) 484-8785**.

Or, return this form with your deposit of \$1,000 per person, **payable to Criterion Travel**. Mail to: Criterion Travel, 4250 SW Hall Blvd., Beaverton, OR 97005.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** (please print)

NAME #1	BIRTHDATE
NAME #2	BIRTHDATE
MAILING ADDRESS	
CITY / STATE / POSTAL CODE	
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 payable to Criterion Travel, 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



National Trust for Historic Preservation

**National Trust Tours**

1155 15th Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20005

[www.nationaltrusttours.com](http://www.nationaltrusttours.com)  
(888) 484-8785 or (202) 588-6300  
[info@nationaltrusttours.com](mailto:info@nationaltrusttours.com)

Find us on  National Trust Tours

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ABOARD THE 47-CABIN **SEA CLOUD II**

**JUNE 15-24, 2024**



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