This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure’s World’s Best Tour Operators award.

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for Smith Travel

Featuring Joshua Birk, Associate Professor of History at Smith College
Dear Alumnae and Friends,

Join us on an exclusive 12-day journey to the island of Sicily. Our small group will experience Sicily’s diverse landscapes and cultural treasures, while staying in unique, centrally-located hotels. We are thrilled that Prof. Joshua Birk will be joining the group for our adventure in Sicily!

We begin in Palermo, where we enjoy a walking tour that includes the Palermo Cathedral and the Palatine Chapel, as well as vibrant markets selling Sicilian specialties. Next, we explore the medieval walled town of Erice and enjoy stunning panoramic views of the valley below. Continuing on to Trapani, we visit the famous salt pans and tour the museum here. A quick stop in Monreale allows us a visit to the city's cathedral, before reaching our destination: Agrigento. We visit the Valley of the Temples and the Temple of Concordia, then continue on to Syracuse. A highlight here is the Archaeological Park of Neapolis, a UNESCO site that comprises a range of ancient monuments. We then take an excursion to Mount Etna, Europe's largest volcano. Finally, we travel to Taormina, where we see the 3rd-century B.C.E. Greek theater, the 13th-century Duomo, and the grand Piazza Vittorio Emanuele.

This air-inclusive journey is exclusive to Smith and limited to 24 travelers. Our small group size enables us to move flexibly, enjoy spontaneous encounters, and foster a sense of Smith camaraderie. Call today to secure your space on this exceptional tour!

Warm regards,

Elizabeth Bigwood
Director, Smith Travel

SMITH TRAVEL RESERVATION FORM: SICILY IN DEPTH

Enclosed is my/our deposit of $______($500 per person) for ____ person(s) on Sicily in Depth departing April 16, 2020. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. Please make deposit check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., Attn: Special Interest Groups, One Newton Place, 275 Washington Street, Suite 300, Newton, MA 02458. For trip and registration information, please contact Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. at (toll-free) 888-370-6765. If you need to contact Smith Travel, please call 800-225-2029 or e-mail alumtrav@smith.edu.

Full Passport Name ________________________________________ Date of Birth ______________ Gender _______
Full Passport Name ________________________________________ Date of Birth ______________ Gender _______
Address ___________________________________________________________________________________________
City ______________________________________________ State __________________ ZIP __________________
Home Phone (______) _______________________________ Cell Phone (______) ______________________________
E-mail(s) __________________________________________ Badge Name(s) _________________________________

Please book my/our air from _________________________ I/We request an air upgrade to ___________________

I will share a room with _____________________________________ I request a single room (limited availability) ❑

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Sicily in Depth, April 16-27, 2020, and
agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) _________________________________________________________________ Date _________________

Method of Payment ❑ Check ❑ American Express ❑ Discover ❑ MasterCard ❑ VISA
Account # __________________________________________ Security Code _________ Exp. Date _______________
Name of Cardholder ________________________________________________________________________________
Signature _________________________________________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.
SICILY IN DEPTH
12 days from $4,274 total price from New York
($3,795 air & land inclusive plus $479 airline taxes and fees)

Crossroads of the Mediterranean … the “toe” in Italy’s boot … “God’s Kitchen” … Sicily is all this, and much more, as we see on our stellar small group journey around this Italian island. It’s lively cities and ancient ruins, temples of man – and of nature, hospitable people and delectable cuisine … a feast for all the senses.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Palermo, Italy

Day 2: Arrive Palermo We arrive today in Palermo, capital of Italy's autonomous region of Sicily. This evening we gather at our hotel for a briefing on the journey ahead, followed by a welcome dinner. D

Day 3: Palermo On this morning's walking tour, we discover 2,700-year-old Palermo's twin claims to fame: impressive architecture and world-class street food. Highlights include Palermo Cathedral and Palatine Chapel, both part of Arab-Norman Palermo, a UNESCO site comprising nine civil and religious structures dating to Norman rule in Sicily (c. 12th-century). We then discover the Baroque city center and pass by Massimo Vittorio Emanuele Theater, one of Europe's largest opera houses. Along the way we pass through vibrant markets selling arancini, cannoli, and other Sicilian specialties – which, of course, we stop to sample. Following our tour, we enjoy lunch at a local restaurant then return to our hotel in the city center. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration. With dinner on our own tonight, perhaps a culinary adventure is in order – and thanks to Sicily's strategic Mediterranean location that lured many invaders, Sicilian food incorporates Italian, Arabic, and African influences into a singular, and delicious, cuisine. B,L

Day 4: Palermo/Erice/Trapani A full day of touring takes us first to the medieval walled town of Erice. Perched atop a mountain nearly 2,500 feet above sea level, Erice offers panoramic views of the valley below, the port town of Trapani, and the Tyrrhenian Sea beyond. We continue to Trapani, where we visit the region’s famed salt pans. Though the area is a designated Nature Reserve, Sicilians still harvest salt here using centuries-old methods; indeed, the oldest of the area’s 60 working windmills dates to the island’s Arabic regime. We tour the museum here then enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before returning to Palermo. B,L

Day 5: Palermo/Monreale/Agrigento En route to Agrigento today, we stop in nearby Monreale. Sitting on the slopes of Monte Caputo, Monreale looks over La Conca d’Oro, or “the Golden Shell,” a richly fertile valley studded with groves of orange, olive, and almond trees. Here we visit the city’s celebrated cathedral, another gem of Arab-Norman Palermo and

Small Group Tour Highlights
Palermo’s Arab-Norman UNESCO sites • Street food experience in Palermo • Stunning Monreale Cathedral (UNESCO site) • Medieval walled town of Erice • Trapani Nature Reserve and salt pans • Agrigento’s Valley of the Temples (UNESCO site) • Outstanding mosaics at Villa Romana del Casale (UNESCO site) • Archaeological Park of Neapolis in Syracuse (UNESCO site) • Wine tasting • Sicilian cooking class • Taormina touring • Mount Etna excursion • Farmhouse lunch • Distinctive, well-located small group hotels

Day Itinerary Hotel Rating
1 Depart U.S. for Palermo

2-4 Palermo Artemisia Palace Hotel Sup. First Class

5-6 Agrigento Hotel Baia di Ulisse First Class

7-9 Syracuse Hotel Borgo Pantano First Class

10-11 Taormina Hotel NH Collection Taormina Deluxe

12 Depart Catania for U.S.

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: We see the Temple of Concordia on Day 6 while exploring the Valley of the Temples.
one of the finest examples of Norman architecture still in existence. The imposing main façade and ornate outer cloister serve to prepare us for the cathedral’s breathtaking main sanctuary, where every inch of wall and ceiling space is covered with painstakingly detailed mosaics. Crafted by artisans from Constantinople (now Istanbul), the dazzling mosaics contain some 4,850 pounds of pure gold. Next we visit a nearby family-owned winery, where we enjoy a wine tasting and lunch. Our journey then continues; late this afternoon we reach Agrigento and our hotel, where we dine together tonight.

**Day 6: Agrigento**

This morning we visit the Valley of the Temples, a UNESCO site and archaeological zone whose ruins of fallen Doric temples and sanctuaries date to Greek rule in the 5th-century BCE. Known in its heyday as “the most beautiful city of mortals,” Agrigento was one of the leading cities during the Golden Age of ancient Greece. Our tour features both the eastern zone, where we see the beautifully preserved Temple of Concordia (c. 430 BCE), and the western zone, with the massive temple of Olympian Zeus, believed to be the largest Doric temple ever built. From the outdoor sites, we then move on to Agrigento’s archaeological museum, with exhibits and artifacts that tell the story of this outpost of classical Greece. Then we return to our hotel for a cooking lesson and dinner.

**Day 7: Agrigento/Piazza Armerina/Syracuse**

We travel across Sicily’s southern reaches today to Syracuse (Siracusa), stopping along the way in Piazza Armerina to visit Villa Romana del Casale, an elaborate 4th-century CE villa and UNESCO site boasting one of the richest, and largest, collections of mosaics in the Roman world. Thanks to having been buried by landslides, the villa, its vivid frescoes, and the more than 3,200 square feet of mosaics survived the millennia in remarkably good shape. Following our tour here, we continue on to Syracuse, arriving late this afternoon. Once the largest city in the ancient world, Syracuse today is an alluring spot known for its superb archaeological sites and the relaxed seaside ambience of its Baroque old town.

**Day 8: Syracuse**

Today we discover what this city is best known for: the Archaeological Park of Neapolis, a UNESCO site that comprises a range of ancient monuments. We begin our explorations at the 5th-century BCE Greek theater, the 16,000-seat amphitheater where the tragedies of Aeschylus were staged – in his presence – and still in use today. Next: Latomia del Paradiso (Paradise Quarry), the now overgrown shaft from which the white limestone used to build Syracuse was cut. Because it has excellent acoustics, the quarry also is known as the Ear of Dionysius. We continue on to the Roman amphitheater, the 1st-century BCE arena that once held gladiator spectacles; today it hosts musicals on its ancient stones. After lunch on our own, we take a walking tour of Ortigia, the “white pearl” of Sicily, the historical center of Syracuse, and a UNESCO site.

**Day 9: Syracuse**

This morning is free to savor the amenities and bucolic setting of our hotel. This afternoon we embark on a cruise along Sicily’s Ionian coast dotted with tiny islands and caves. We see historic Ortigia Island, the Spanish Wall, and 13th-century Castello Maniace that served as a bulwark against invaders in the Middle Ages. We cap this scenic afternoon with dinner at a local restaurant.

**Day 10: Syracuse/Mount Etna/Taormina**

We depart Syracuse this morning and make our way up the coast to Taormina. Along the way, we stop at Taormina's ancient theater overlooks Mt. Etna.
a private farm set amidst acres of lemon and kiwi groves, where we enjoy a small group highlight: a homemade lunch prepared by the family who lives here. To accompany our meal, we sample some excellent Sicilian wines. After lunch, we visit Mt. Etna, one of Europe’s largest active volcanoes. The ancients believed conical snow-topped Etna to be the forge of Vulcan, god of fire; today, modern-day Sicilians have a very personal relationship with the volcano, which frequently erupts but is seldom destructive. After we descend from the volcano, we resume our journey to Taormina, arriving late this afternoon. This evening is at leisure, with dinner tonight on our own. B,L

Day 11: Taormina This morning we embark on a walking tour of this delightful medieval town set on a rocky terrace overlooking the Ionian Sea. Highlights include the 3rd-century BCE Greek theater, where gladiators once battled; the 11th-century fortress-like Duomo; and grand Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, site of the ancient agora and today an inviting plaza. This afternoon is at leisure to enjoy Taormina as we wish; tonight we celebrate our Sicily adventure over a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. B,D

Day 12: Depart for U.S. We transfer today to the Catania airport for our return flight to the U.S. B

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
- 10 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class and First Class hotels
- 22 meals: 10 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Meet Your Smith Host

Joshua Birk specializes in political and cultural history across religious boundaries in the medieval Mediterranean world. Birk recently completed a book manuscript, Norman Kings of Sicily and the Rise of the Anti-Islamic Critique: Baptized Sultans, which examines the rise of anti-Islamic sentiment in Latin Europe. He has also published on the First Crusade, examining how the interactions between Normans and Muslims in Southern Italy and Sicily informed Southern Italian behavior during the Crusades and how early accounts of the crusade were rewritten to erase this Southern Italian perspective. Birk offers a range of courses on various topics in the medieval world, including three sequential surveys covering the medieval European world from 400 to 1650. He teaches several specialized colloquia on topics such as the notion of race in the Medieval Europe Ages, medieval concepts of magic and the supernatural, and the ideas of religious violence in the Islamo-Christian Tradition.

Tour Departs: April 16, 2020

Prices include int’l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

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Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of $479, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Single travelers please add $1,095. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed. Airline upgrades on round-trip Trans-Atlantic flight: Business Class – $3,795 per person; Premium Economy – $1,395 per person (upgrades are subject to availability and pricing is subject to change). Upgrade costs are in addition to the costs above. Please note: This trip involves considerable walking uphill and on uneven or cobblestone streets, and at sites of ancient ruins. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time
GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a $500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not Included in Tour Price
Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges, gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities $10-$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing, and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes
If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.’s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: cancel 95 days or more before departure: $200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price; cancel 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund. If you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a $100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.

Upon reservation, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport, as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket’s reissue.

Trip Insurance: For your protection, we strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation in a travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be your only source of reimbursement. Insurance information will be sent to you by Smith Travel once your registration has been confirmed by Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.

Responsibility
The liability of Smith College, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing trip arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Smith College and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues
We request that you be in good health to participate in this Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. tour. There is a considerable amount of walking, and you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own. We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Smith College and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information
Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round-trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown, and contracts with those airlines the company feels provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. Please note that seat assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.