

*Wallingford Senior Center presents...*

# **Old World Sicily & Malta**

March 16 – 27, 2025



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## **SPECIAL TRAVEL PRESENTATION**

Date: Tuesday, May 14, 2024 Time: 10:00 AM

Wallingford Senior Center

238 Washington St, Wallingford, Connecticut, 06492-2327

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For more information contact

Karen Anderson

Wallingford Senior Center

**(203) 265-7753**

**kanderson@wlfdseniorctr.com**



**Small Group Travel** rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

**12 Days • 16 Meals:** 10 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 5 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** Malta, Grand Harbour Cruise, Valletta, Impact Moment, Ferry to Sicily, Winery Tour, Ragusa-Ibla, Siracusa, Choice on Tour, Taormina's Greek Theatre, Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion

#### ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1	Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 5	Land's End Boutique Hotel, Tas-Sliema
Days 6 – 8	Poggio del Sole Hotel, Ragusa
Days 9 – 11	Hotel Villa Diodoro, Taormina

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

**Day 1: Sunday, March 16, 2025 Overnight Flight** You're on your way to Malta and Sicily – legendary isles nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean. Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society as you travel along timeless Italian and Maltese towns.

**Day 2: Monday, March 17, 2025 Sliema, Malta - Tour Begins** Start your journey with a 4-night stay in Sliema, a welcoming Maltese resort town with a lively waterfront promenade. Stretch your legs and take in views of Marsamxett Harbour and Manoel Island. Uncover Malta's deeply rooted heritage, teeming with mysterious prehistoric temples and Renaissance architectural masterpieces. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers over a welcome dinner. (D)

**Day 3: Tuesday, March 18, 2025 Sliema - Valletta - Sliema** Begin your adventure with a panoramic sailing of Valletta's (UNESCO) Grand Harbour aboard traditional *Dghajsa* boats\* before exploring the Maltese capital during a walking tour led by a local expert. View the skyline of the Three Cities from the Upper Barrakka Gardens and take in the elegant profile of the Grand Master's Palace. Then, enjoy some free time to explore on your own. This afternoon, visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta before hopping on the local ferry\* back to Sliema for an evening at leisure. (B)

**Day 4: Wednesday, March 19, 2025 Sliema** The entire day is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in Sliema or venture back to Valletta for a visit to Caravaggio's masterpiece housed in Saint John's Co-Cathedral. Or join an optional full day exploration of the Isle of Gozo,\* the second largest island of the Maltese archipelago and home to the Ggantija temple complex (UNESCO), which is older than Stonehenge. (B)

**Day 5: Thursday, March 20, 2025 Sliema - Maltese Village Experience** Enjoy a morning at leisure. Perhaps you'll join a half-day optional tour to Mdina – the “Silent City” and Malta's ancient capital. This afternoon, immerse yourself in Maltese traditions as you board a retro bus for a village where daily life and customs remain unchanged. Experience an **impact moment** as you are hosted for dinner at a local band club. Band clubs have a special place in the community. A source of intense pride and with a solid place in Maltese social culture, the band club's premises are an ideal meeting point for locals to exchange gossip, play a game of pool or engage in village *fešta* activities. (B, D)

**Day 6: Friday, March 21, 2025 Sliema - Ferry to Sicily - Ragusa Countryside, Italy** Early this morning, grab your bags\*\* and hop on a ferry\*\*\* to Sicily. Pause in the seaside town of Pozzallo for a Sicilian breakfast. Like in most of Italy, breakfast in Sicily is a simple but tasty affair, traditionally consisting of a pastry and a *cappuccino* coffee. Continue with your culinary exploration of the Sicilian countryside as you pause at a family-owned winery to learn about their natural wine production and their support of the Slow Food movement conserving traditional food production methods. Then sample some of their wines during lunch. This afternoon, settle into your hotel for a leisurely 3-night stay in the Ragusa countryside. (B, L, D)

**Day 7: Saturday, March 22, 2025 Ragusa Countryside - Ragusa-Ibla - Ragusa Countryside** Make your way to Ragusa-Ibla (UNESCO), a time-worn city perched upon a hill. Meander through its late-Baroque neighborhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies. Make the most of a free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, retreat to your countryside resort just outside the city or linger in town for a dinner on own. (B)

**Day 8: Sunday, March 23, 2025 Ragusa Countryside** The day is yours to do as you please. With free time, you might choose to relax in the countryside and enjoy the resort's amenities. Or, perhaps you



## Per Person Rates\*:

**Double \$4,749; Single \$5,449; Triple \$4,699**

**Included in Price:** Round Trip Group Transportation to/from Airport, Round Trip Air from New York, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

**Not included in price:** Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$479 per person

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS:** Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. Once deposited, you have 7 days to send us written consumer consent or withdraw consent and receive a full refund. (See registration form for consent.)

will join an optional tour to the picture-perfect towns of Scicli and Modica (UNESCO), where you'll enjoy a savory brunch at a ricotta farm before continuing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B, D)

**Day 9: Monday, March 24, 2025 Ragusa Countryside - Siracusa - Taormina** Take in the rugged landscape of South-Eastern Sicily en route to Siracusa (UNESCO). Then, **it's your choice!** Discover the expansive Neapolis, the ancient Greek colony established 27 centuries ago **-OR-** take in the ancient city's most precious treasures during a visit of the archeological museum in company of a local expert. This afternoon, relax during a bus transfer to Taormina, a charming resort town perched high above the Mediterranean Sea. (B)

**Day 10: Tuesday, March 25, 2025 Taormina** Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theater. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean.

Spend the afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

**Day 11: Wednesday, March 26, 2025 Taormina - Mount Etna - Taormina** See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna (UNESCO). Stare up at the iconic peak as your vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. Back in Taormina, gather with your fellow travelers as you recount memories of the Mediterranean islands accompanied by Sicilian food at dinner, surrounded by local musicians. (B, D)

**Day 12: Thursday, March 27, 2025 Taormina - Tour Ends** Say goodbye to Sicily and the Mediterranean as your tour comes to a close today. (B)

## Experience It! Malta

Malta may be small in size – but that's where its minuteness stops. Malta is south of Sicily, but is only 1% of the size of the well-known Italian island. Despite its initial appearance, the country is actually made up of a set of islands, all close together. This coastal paradise preserves endless layers of history – Malta once served as the home of Neolithic farmers, it holds age-old foundations from the Middle Ages, it served as the battleground for key fights of the Knights of Malta, and the island also played a strategic role for the Allies in WWII as a base. Malta has been inhabited since 5,000 BC, and this dynamic history is woven into its modern culture. Today, you can explore this intriguing past as well as soak up the sunshine on this relaxing Mediterranean getaway.

**For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1234734>**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

**IDENTIFICATION**

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

**IMPORTANT:** We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

*Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>*

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

\*Traditional Dghajsa boats are small, each one seating approximately 5-7 people. Sailing is weather dependent and may be postponed or cancelled in case of adverse weather or sea conditions. Local ferries to Sliema and Gozo are also weather and sea dependent and may be cancelled or postponed as required. The isle of Gozo can only be reached by ferry which may result in a day swap or a cancellation of the optional tour.

\*\*Travelers are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the ferry to Sicily.

\*\*\*Depending on the ferry schedule to Sicily, you may depart your hotel as early as 5:00 a.m. A box breakfast will be arranged and there is a cafeteria available aboard the ferry. In the case of adverse sea conditions, the ferry to Sicily may be delayed or cancelled resulting in partial reduction of your time on the island. In case of this event, there will be a replacement accommodation arranged and a comparable program on Malta.

Most shops and businesses in Malta and Italy are closed on Sundays and on observances of national local or religious holidays.

**The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3.** This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. In particular, you should expect large crowds in Valletta and Taormina. Both visits there require the ability to walk a minimum of 1.5 miles over cobblestoned streets with steep inclines and stairs with no handrails. The cities of Mdina, Ragusa, Modica, Scicli and Siracusa present similar conditions. Agility is required to board the local boats and ferries used in Malta as well as boarding the off-road vehicles used for the Mount Etna excursion. The Mount Etna excursion includes an ascent to 2000 meters/6,500 feet above sea level. For your comfort, we recommend bringing comfortable walking shoes. Foreign countries do not have to comply with the ADA rules. Due to the nature of this itinerary, the destinations visited and local conditions, this trip cannot accommodate for individuals who use



wheelchairs or walkers and you therefore should consider an alternate program with us. Our Client Care Agents can provide additional information or assistance to help you determine the perfect trip for you.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Our air travelers will depart from Catania airport. All of our return transfers will depart from Taormina to Catania airport.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

**A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of August 10, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by January 15, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until August 17, 2024.**

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

For important reservation information visit  
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1234734>.  
You can also find this information on your tour documents.



162 Middle Street  
Pawtucket, RI • 02860  
Phone: 1-800-852-5655 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

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If paying by credit card, please complete this form and return to Wallingford Senior Center. We can only charge your credit card for the amount noted if the signature, address and phone number are listed below. Thank you!

### CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM

BOOKING NUMBER: 1234734  
DEPARTURE DATE: March 16, 2025

TOUR: Old World Sicily & Malta  
GROUP NAME: Wallingford Senior Center

Name of Passenger:

Salutation: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Initial: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

Cardholder Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print as it appears on your Credit Card)

Cardholder Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on your credit card statement)

Cardholder Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Type:    \_\_\_ American Express    \_\_\_ Discover    \_\_\_ MasterCard    \_\_\_ Visa

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept Collette cancellation policy, terms and conditions.

Participating credit card companies are now requiring a billing address and phone number for **FRAUD PREVENTION**. All information **MUST** be provided. Thank you for your cooperation!  
If using your credit card for payment, please return this Authorization Form by mail to:

**Wallingford Senior Center**  
Attn: Karen Anderson  
238 Washington St  
Wallingford, CT 06492-2327

Or by Fax to: (203) 294-2117

Above credit card information has been called in to Collette.

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BOOKING NUMBER: 1234734  
DEPARTURE DATE: March 16, 2025

TOUR: Old World Sicily & Malta  
GROUP NAME: Wallingford Senior Center

### Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

*Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.*

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

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### Sicily

#### **Sicily's Baroque Valley: Scicli & Modica with lunch** **\$125 USD**

Journey to Sicily's Baroque Valley, known for its ornate historic architecture. Discover UNESCO World Heritage sites in Scicli and Modica. The town of Scicli dates back to the 3rd century BC, home to a number of centuries-old churches. Visit a local farm for brunch to learn about two local specialties: ricotta cheese and sausage. The hilly city of Modica, dating back to the 2nd century BC, is renowned for its baroque architecture and breathtakingly detailed facades. Taste Modica's historically rooted artisanal chocolate, based on flavorful Aztec recipes of millennia ago. This tour will immerse you in the alluring culture and history of the Baroque Valley. *Duration: Approximately 8 hours.* Please note a minimum of 8 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

### Malta

#### **A Day in Gozo Island** **\$129 USD**

Embark on a full day exploration of the Isle of Gozo, the second largest island of the Maltese archipelago. A short ferry ride takes you to across to Malta's greener neighbor, home to the Ggantija temple complex (UNESCO), which is older than Stonehenge. Uncover this UNESCO site with a local expert and learn about Gozo's 7,000 years of history. Pause for lunch at a local restaurant before enjoying a panoramic drive highlighting the many captivating legends of Gozo. Discover for yourself why the great epic poet Homer identified Gozo as the home of the nymph Calypso who kept Ulysses captive here for seven years. This option must be booked at least 30 days prior to departure. The ferry boat ride is 20-25 minutes each way and is dependent on weather and sea conditions. *Duration: Approximately 9 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

#### **Mdina, the Silent City** **\$65 USD**

Spend your morning in Mdina, the Silent City. Your tour begins with an exploration of the site that is traditionally identified with Saint Paul's Grotto, where legend holds that this is where Paul the Apostle stayed when he arrived on the island in 60 CE. Then, set off on foot through the narrow, winding streets of Mdina for an intimate look at Malta's ancient capital, absconded in the countryside and protected for centuries before the arrival of the Knights of Malta. St. Paul's Grotto can only be reached via a steep staircase and may be unsuitable for travelers with claustrophobia. *Duration: Approximately 4 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.



TRAVEL DATE: 3/16/2025 TERRITORY: A7  
RES#: 1234734

Old World Sicily & Malta

**For Reservations Contact:** Karen Anderson (203) 265-7753 email: kanderson@wlfdseniorctr.com  
Wallingford Senior Center, 238 Washington St, Wallingford, CT 06492-2327

**A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the deposit due date of August 10, 2024 are based upon availability. Final payment due by January 15, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until August 17, 2024.**

**YOUR INFORMATION:**

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) **as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.**

**IMPORTANT:** In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: ( ) Male ( ) Female Date of Birth: month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Issuance: (month/day/year) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Country of Issuance: \_\_\_\_\_ Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you):** \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOMING WITH:**  Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

**AIR GATEWAY:** Departure airport for this tour: \_\_\_\_\_

Air Seat Request: ( ) Aisle ( ) Window ( ) Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times. Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

**TRAVEL PROTECTION:** ( ) Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$479 ( ) No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

**ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour activities**

Please Choose One: *(subject to availability)*

( ) Land's End Boutique – Standard (included)

( ) Land's End Boutique – Standard Sea View (additional charge of \$190.00 double, \$380.00 single required)

Please Choose One: *(subject to availability)*

( ) Hotel Villa Diodoro – Standard (included)

( ) Hotel Villa Diodoro – Frontal Sea View (additional charge of \$90.00 double, \$180.00 single required)

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** Collette ( ) Check ( ) Credit Card

Waiver/Insurance Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Deposit Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name (if paying by Credit Card): \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Billing Address:  Check if address is the same as above \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ Expiration Date: \_ \_ / \_ \_ / \_ \_  
M M Y Y

**SIGNATURE REQUIRED** for acceptance of the below conditions and agreement to credit card use:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to pay according to the card issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation policy, terms and conditions. See <http://www.gocollette.com/about-collette/terms-and-conditions> for full terms and conditions of your purchase.

**Important Conditions:** Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees.



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**TOUR:** Old World Sicily & Malta  
**GROUP NAME:** Wallingford Senior Center

**DEPARTURE DATE:** Mar 16, 2025  
**BOOKING NUMBER:** 1234734

## AVAILABLE PREPAID OPTIONS

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change. Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

**PASSENGERS NAME:** (Please submit a separate form for each passenger)

Salutation: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print **EXACTLY** as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

✓	Option	Price Per Person (USD)
	Sicily's Baroque Valley:Scicli & Modica with lunch	125.00
	A Day in Gozo Island <i>This option must be booked at least 30 days prior to departure. The ferry boat ride is 20-25 minutes each way and is dependent on weather and sea conditions.</i>	129.00
	Mdina, the Silent City <i>St. Paul's Grotto can only be reached via a steep staircase and may be unsuitable for travelers with claustrophobia.</i>	65.00

**Please make checks payable to Collette and send to:**

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Fax: (203) 294-2117