

SOUTHERN ITALY AND SICILY

The picturesque Amalfi Coast Violet bougainvillea gracing pastel-pink facades, houses perched upon cliffs like swallows nests, perron stairs with views out over the turquoise sea sometimes the Amalfi Coast almost seems too good to be true. But this regions colourful fishing village charm is definitely real, and in 1997 UNESCO declared the coast a World Heritage Site. A stunning town with volcanic views: Taormina Its list of admirers includes Goethe, Oscar Wilde and Liz Taylor. It seems the unique charm of Taormina in the north east of Sicily has always attracted famous summer visitors. One site that is particularly worth seeing is the towns Roman amphitheatre built in the 2nd century BC: From the Teatro Greco you can enjoy a heavenly panoramic view of Mount Etna and the Giardini Naxos Bay. Maltas beautiful little sister: Gozo The inhabitants of Gozo are visibly proud of their island, and it is not hard to see why: It may be seen as Malta's little sister, but it trumps the larger island with its greener, quieter and more romantic setting. In fact, you will not find even a trace of mass tourism here. Instead you will be greeted by rugged landscapes, historical temples and the Azure Window, one of the most beautiful rock arches in the Mediterranean. A lecturer accompanies the trip Exciting topics, background information and fascinating facts our expert offers talks on a whole range of subjects from his specialist field.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Rome (Civitavecchia)/Italy

Guests arrive individually in Civitavecchia. Embarkation on the Sea Cloud ii. All roads lead to Rome. The stunningly beautiful city on the Tiber is around 70 kilometres (44 miles) from the port of Civitavecchia. The highlights of the "Eternal City" are not limited to the seven hills of antiquity. The historic centre and the Vatican State in Rome are both UNESCO World Heritage Sites. In the city of Vespas and "la dolce vita", painters, sculptors and architects have left behind innumerable works of art over three millennia. Ancient sites, Renaissance palaces, Baroque squares



and fountains create a splendid backdrop for enjoying life in between the daily routine and eternity.

Day 2 - At sea

Day 3 - Capri/Italy & Amalfi/Italy

Even at the time of the Roman Empire, Capri was a particularly precious natural gem and became the summer residence of the Emperor Tiberius. Artists and hedonists, aristocrats and the moneyed classes discovered the island for themselves in the 19th century. This stunningly beautiful rocky island in the Gulf of Naples is famous for its numerous grottos, the most well known being the Blue Grotto. You can expect a combination of pleasure and spectacle when you experience the colourful lifestyle and goings-on in the Piazetta right in the centre of Capri.

Day 4 - Amalfi/Italy

The beautifully curving Amalfi Coast, which meanders along the starkly protruding Sorrento peninsula, has been listed as a UNESCO world heritage site. In the pretty little town of Amalfi, whose history as an influential maritime republic is still clear to see, a dense labyrinth of pastel-coloured houses clings to the rocky coastline. Boasting three naves, the beautiful 10th century cathedral with an enchanting cloister, colourful marble facade, Arabic-Norman campanile and magnificent steps leading to the lively Piazza Duomo is the heart of this small coastal town.

Days 5 & 6 - Naxos (Taormina)/Sicily

Taormina is perched on a rock with a majestic view over the sea. In the 19th century, this small town had already developed into a dream destination for well-heeled travellers and artists. The town's fascination lies in its elegance, the many ancient buildings, the stunningly beautiful coastline, the mild climate,

and the view over the silhouette of Etna. Europe's largest volcano is over 3,000 metres (9,843 foot) high, has four summit craters and around 400 subsidiary craters, and is covered with snow almost all year round. In ancient times it was considered the seat of the gods, but nowadays large sections of it are a nature reserve. Optional City walking tour & Optional Excursion to Mount Etna: journey to 2,900 m in cable car and 4x4 vehicle.

Day 7 - Gozo/Malta

Optional Island tour.

Day 8 - La Valletta/Malta

This strategically important location has always attracted foreign conquerors. More than 7,000 years ago, a civilisation existed here, leaving behind enormous temple complexes. Just like proud Valletta, these are now UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Jean Parisot de la Valette, Grand Master of the Order of St John, founded a modern fortified city on a rock in 1566, between the two splendid natural ports of Marsamxett and Grand Harbour. Long rows of facades made from golden-yellow blocks of chalk stretch along the straight streets. Splendid Renaissance and Baroque buildings are evidence of riches and power, such as the Palace of the Grand Master and the impressive St John's Co-Cathedral. Disembarkation. Guests return home individually.

Please Note:

Itinerary subject to change! Optional excursions are not included in the rate.





YOUR SHIP: SEA CLOUD II

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VESSEL TYPE: Tall Ship (Sailing)

LENGTH: 105 metres

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 96

BUILT/REFURBISHED: 2001

Launched in 2001, Sea Cloud II is a stunning vessel, built along traditional lines, but offering deluxe accommodation. She combines timeless elegance of sailing ships of the past with the highest safety standards and the luxurious comfort of modern cruise ships. Just like her legendary sister ship Sea Cloud, the 29,600 square feet of sails is set by hand which is a truly magical sight. Built to accommodate 96 passengers in five star luxury, she offers a range of beautifully appointed suites and cabins which are furnished with great style. All accommodations have outside views and the bathrooms, in light marble, are unusually spacious and extremely comfortable. The finest, carefully chosen fabrics, combined with leather, rattan and other materials, brass and gold, precious woods and marble together create an impressive ensemble. No expense has been spared to create a sympathetic ambience in both the accommodations and public areas and this is reflected throughout the vessel. Public areas include an elegant lounge, library, fitness centre, boutique, lido bar and hospital. The single sitting dining room is airy and modern and the quality of the cuisine and service will be to the highest of standards, as one would expect on a Sea Cloud cruise. Relax on the Lido deck and experience the natural

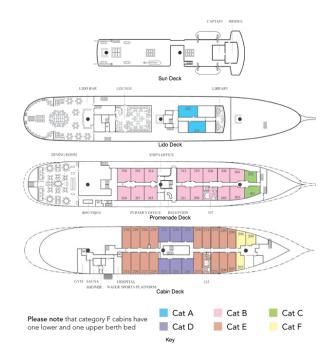
grandeur of travelling under sail, rekindling memories of a



bygone age.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP





PRICING