

## Celtic Rovers Sicily September 11<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 9Days&8Nights

### September 10, 2025: Departure

Today you will board your transatlantic flight to Sicily

### September 11, 2025: Palermo

After passing through passport control and collecting your luggage at Palermo Airport, you will be greeted by our driver and guide to begin your Sicilian adventure. Enjoy the scenic views and the vibrant Palermo cityscape, renowned for its eclectic mix of architectural styles—Byzantine to Baroque. Upon arrival at our hotel, there will be time to freshen up before gathering for a group dinner.

Overnight: Palermo dinner as group



### September 12, 2025: Palermo

This morning, after enjoying a delicious Sicilian breakfast, embark on a guided city tour of Palermo. Along the way, we'll stop to explore several of the city's most iconic landmarks. Our first visit will be to the breathtaking Cathedral of Palermo, one of Sicily's most significant architectural treasures. Next, we'll journey to the Palazzo dei Normanni and the Cappella Palatina—the Royal Palace and its stunning Palatine Chapel, renowned for their rich history and exquisite mosaics.

After the tour, the evening is yours to enjoy at leisure. Take the opportunity to dine at one of the many fabulous restaurants located near the hotel.

Overnight: Palermo dinner on own



**September 13, 2025: Day trip to Agrigento**

After breakfast, we'll journey down the west coast of Sicily to the ancient city of Agrigento. There, we'll enjoy a two-hour guided tour of Agrigento and the renowned Valley of the Temples. Founded around 500 BC by the Greeks, Agrigento is steeped in history and culture. The Valley of the Temples, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is one of the most outstanding examples of Greek art and architecture in the world. Among its many remarkable ruins, you'll find the Temple of Heracles and the Temple of Zeus, along with other significant archaeological treasures. Following the tour, we will journey back towards Palermo, there will be a stop along the way for lunch. Once back at the hotel, there will be time to relax before gathering for a group dinner at a local restaurant.

Overnight: Palermo dinner as group

**September 14, 2025: Day trip to Trapani & Marsala**

After another delicious breakfast, we'll travel along the coast, stopping in the charming city of Trapani—renowned for its stunning coastline and historic old town. Our visit includes a tour of the Trapani salt flats and their iconic windmills. The salt trade, which began in the 15th century, played a vital role in the city's development. While the industry now operates on a smaller scale, the windmills and salt fields remain a captivating sight. We'll then continue to the city of Marsala, famous for its chocolate and wine. Upon arrival, we'll enjoy a wine and food tasting experience, followed by a tour of Marsala. Later in the day, we'll return to Palermo. Once back at the hotel, the evening is yours to relax or explore on your own.



Overnight in Palermo dinner on own

**September 15, 2025: Palermo to Taormina**

This morning, we'll depart from Palermo and journey east toward the ancient city of Taormina. Our first stop, approximately 50 miles away, will be the medieval town of Cefalù—renowned for its narrow streets and buildings adorned with elaborate architectural details.

A local guide will lead us on a two-hour walking tour of Cefalù, including a visit to the stunning Cefalù Cathedral (Duomo), famous for its magnificent mosaics. The picturesque fishermen's quarter also offers perfect photo opportunities.

Next, we'll continue to the Roman-Greek town of Tindari, founded in 395 BC. There, we'll visit the Sanctuary of the Madonna of Tindari, home to the revered Black Madonna, believed by many to grant favors to those who pray.

After our visit, we'll continue on to Taormina. Upon arrival, there will be time to relax before gathering for a group dinner.

Overnight in Taormina- dinner as group





**September 16, 2025: Mount Etna**

After breakfast, we'll set out on an unforgettable journey to Mount Etna—the highest and most active volcano in Europe. Our tour will take us to an elevation of approximately 10,000 feet, where you'll witness dramatic views of recent lava flows and eruption sites. Following our exploration, we'll visit a local Mount Etna winery for a delightful three-course lunch paired with regional wines. In the afternoon, we'll return to Taormina. Overnight in Taormina- dinner on own

**September 17, 2025: Syracuse**

Today, enjoy a full-day excursion to Syracuse, located on the southeastern coast of Sicily. We will start our tour in the old town area, Ortygia – labyrinth of ancient and medieval streets with stunning coastal views and a relaxed Mediterranean atmosphere. We will explore top sites such as Basilica of St. Lucia and the Cathedral of Syracuse. After our day of touring, we will journey back to Taormina. Once we arrive the night will be free for you. Overnight in Taormina- dinner on own

**September 18, 2025: City of Taormina**

After breakfast, you'll explore the stunning hilltop town of Taormina, perched on a rocky headland high above the Ionian Sea. A local guide will lead a two-hour walking tour through this charming town. One of the highlights of the tour is a visit to the Ancient Amphitheater of Taormina—arguably the most iconic historical monument in the region. Originally built for dramatic and musical performances, the amphitheater was later adapted by the Romans to host games and gladiatorial contests. After our tour, there will be free time in the afternoon followed by our farewell group dinner. Overnight in Taormina, dinner as group

**September 19, 2025: Depart**

This morning you will board your flight in Catania and begin your journey back to the USA