

2022

HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS

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SICILY BY SAIL

Valletta to Palermo Aboard *Sea Cloud II*

October 1–9, 2022

with Diana Sorensen, James F. Rothenberg Professor
of Romance Languages & Literatures



HARVARD

Alumni Travels



Benanti winery, Catania. © Benanti winery (above). Front cover: Temple of Juno, Valley of the Temples, Agrigento. Back cover: Mosaic (detail), Villa Romana del Casale, Piazza Armerina, photo by Andrea Schaffer (top) and Trapani (bottom).

Sicily by Sail

From its lava-scorched mountains and sunlit beaches to its luscious citrus orchards and verdant pastures, Sicily exudes an irresistible magnetism. Amid that natural beauty, the island holds abundant historic treasures. These jewels of art and architecture offer evidence of the many cultures who've conquered Sicily, including Phoenicians, ancient Greeks, Arabs, and Normans.

On a weeklong cruise aboard the luxurious *Sea Cloud II*, discover this enchanting island. From Valletta, Malta, spend a lovely day at sea before arriving in Sicily. One after the other, marvels follow. Explore the historic center of UNESCO-listed Catania, whose ornate Baroque cathedral is one of many delights. Enjoy a winery tour and tasting on the slopes of legendary Mount Etna. In ancient Syracuse, a highlight will be a private reception with a Sicilian baron at his gorgeous *palazzo*. Behold exquisite Baroque architecture in Noto. In Agrigento's Valley of the Temples, admire the world's most extraordinarily well-preserved ancient Greek structures.

View Segesta's beautiful Greek temple built in the 5th century B.C. Choose between excursions to the medieval hilltop town of Erice or to Mazara del Vallo, home to a spectacular, 2,400-year-old bronze statue known as *The Dancing Satyr*. Conclude in Palermo, where an optional postlude is offered, with an in-depth look at its UNESCO-recognized Arab-Norman architecture. Travel in the company of members from The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Activity Level 3:

A LITTLE MORE TO IT

This is an active program that involves extensive walking and standing during visits to museums and historic sites. Please note that *Sea Cloud II* does not have an elevator. At certain ports of call, *Sea Cloud II* may not be able to dock at a pier for disembarkation. In these cases, a tender service, and/or Zodiac inflatable boat, will be employed as a transfer from *Sea Cloud II* to shore. *Sea Cloud II* staff will be there to assist you getting in and out of the tenders/Zodiacs. Temperatures should range from the mid-50s to low 70s °F. As rain showers are not uncommon in September and October, we suggest that you bring a lined raincoat and a folding umbrella. We also recommend you pack a hat, sunblock, and insect repellent. Casual dress is appropriate most of the time, and the emphasis is on layered clothing. Comfortable walking shoes are essential! For welcome and farewell dinners, jacket and tie is customary for gentlemen, with comparable evening attire for ladies. Smart casual clothing is suggested for other dinners aboard *Sea Cloud II*.

Study Leader



Diana Sorensen is James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages & Literatures and Professor of Comparative Literature. She joined the Harvard faculty in 2001 and was Dean of Arts and Humanities in the Faculty of Arts and

Sciences between 2006 and 2016. She is a specialist in 19th- and 20th-century Latin American literature, comparative literature, and cultural theory. Among her varied writings are the following books: *The Reader and the Text: Interpretative Strategies for Latin American Literatures*, *Facundo and the Construction of Argentine Culture* (winner of the MLA Prize for the best book in the field in 1996), and *Sarmiento: Annotated Edition of His Complete Works*. She was awarded a 2008 Cabot Fellowship for her book *A Turbulent Decade Remembered: Cultural Scenes from the Latin American Sixties*. Her current work deals with mobility, material culture, and the transformations of the global in the 21st century. Her edited book, *Territories and Trajectories: Cultures in Circulation*, was published by Duke University Press in 2018.

Diana will lecture on how the novel teaches history as lived experience, as in the case of Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa's *The Leopard*. She will also expound upon Sicily's museums and the debates about who owns antiquities in the crossroads of cultures.

You're invited to extend your exciting journey aboard *Sea Cloud II*. When you book this Sicily program, you can also join the preceding voyage, **"Timeless Islands of the Mediterranean: Palermo to Genoa Aboard *Sea Cloud II*,"** from October 8 to 18, 2022, and receive \$2,500 per person off the combined fare for the two trips.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
[ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](https://alumni.harvard.edu/travel)



Map of the region (left) and Fountain of Diana, Syracuse (right)

Schedule by Day

B=Breakfast, L= Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1

Departure

Depart on an overnight flight to Valletta, Malta.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

Valletta, Malta / Embark Sea Cloud II

Arrive this morning in Valletta, and gather for lunch. This afternoon, board the elegant *Sea Cloud II*. L,D

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3

Day at Sea

Experience the thrill of sailing aboard our elegant ship. Enjoy lectures, and delight in the grace and romance of a bygone era of travel. This evening, the captain hosts a welcome reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4

Catania (Sicily), Italy / Piazza Armerina

This morning, take a walking tour of Catania, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its beautiful Baroque monuments. Stop in the historic center to see the cathedral dedicated to St. Agatha, the nearby market, Castello Ursino, and the impressive Benedictine monastery. This afternoon, drive to Mount Etna, Europe's highest active volcano, for a tour of the legendary Benanti winery, followed by a tasting. Alternatively, travel in the morning to Piazza Armerina for a full-day excursion. Discover the imperial Villa Romana del Casale, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, whose captivating collection

of mosaics is considered the most beautiful and well-preserved of its kind. B,L,D

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5

Syracuse

Today, explore Syracuse, one of the most important cities in antiquity, touted by Cicero as "the greatest Greek city." Discover the well-preserved Greek and Roman theaters of the Parco Archeologico della Neapolis. On beautiful Ortygia Island, see the cathedral built on the ruins of the Tempio di Atena (Temple of Athena), and see Caravaggio's *Burial of Saint Lucy* in the Basilica Santa Lucia al Sepolcro, an exquisite Baroque church. By special invitation, we will visit the Baroque *palazzo* of a Sicilian baron, who will welcome us for a tour followed by cocktails. B,L,R,D

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6

Pozzallo / Noto

This morning, arrive in Pozzallo and drive to the exquisitely preserved town of Noto. This Baroque jewel is situated on a plateau surrounded by olive and almond groves. In the beautiful historic center, see Corso Vittorio Emanuele, an elegantly manicured walkway flanked by buildings of golden sandstone, where every façade is embellished with sculptures of gods, mythical beasts, saints, and angels. Spend the afternoon at sea sailing to Porto Empedocle. B,L,D

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7

Porto Empedocle / Agrigento

Anchor in Porto Empedocle for a drive to Agrigento, which Pindar called "the most beautiful city built by mortal men." Tour the Valle dei Templi (Valley of the Temples), and marvel at the Tempio della Concordia (Temple of Concordia), perhaps the best-preserved Greek temple in the world. B,L,D

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8

Trapani

Arrive at the port of Trapani, and depart on a morning excursion to Segesta to view its splendid Greek temple and theater. Following lunch, you may wish to visit the medieval hilltop town of Erice. Alternatively, drive to the village of Mazara del Vallo to see its spectacular seven-foot bronze statue, retrieved from the sea by local fishermen. With his flying hair and goat ears, the 2,400-year-old figure was quickly dubbed *The Dancing Satyr*. Tonight, gather for the captain's farewell dinner and reception. B,L,R,D

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9

Palermo / Disembark / Return

Disembark in Palermo, and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

Optional Palermo Postlude

OCTOBER 9-11, 2022

Discover the bustling Sicilian capital over two nights, with accommodations at the luxurious Villa Ignea. Disembark *Sea Cloud II* for a full-day exploration of Palermo's most famous, UNESCO-listed Arab-Norman monuments, including the Palazzo dei Normanni and its splendid 12th-century Cappella Palatina. Drive to Monreale to behold its magnificent Norman cathedral. In the morning, admire Palermo's striking architecture during a fascinating walking tour, and enjoy an afternoon private visit to an aristocratic *palazzo*.

Postlude rate per person:

\$2,399 double rate / \$2,999 single rate

Postlude Rate Includes: Two nights accommodations at the Villa Ignea, a Rocco Forte Hotel, with two breakfasts, one lunch, and one dinner. Sightseeing as noted.

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Ship Details

Sea Cloud II is a three-masted sailing yacht steeped in the elegance of yesteryear and complemented with the most modern amenities. Sister ship of the legendary *Sea Cloud*, *Sea Cloud II* has 47 outside cabins and travels under 23 billowing sails trimmed by hand. From the mahogany-paneled library and gracious lounge to the gym and watersports platform, no detail has been overlooked. Praised by the world's most discerning travelers, *Sea Cloud II* receives consistently high rankings from *Condé Nast Traveler*. Passengers enjoy open seating at all meals and complimentary use of all water sports equipment. A doctor is on call 24 hours a day. Please note: There is no elevator on *Sea Cloud II*.



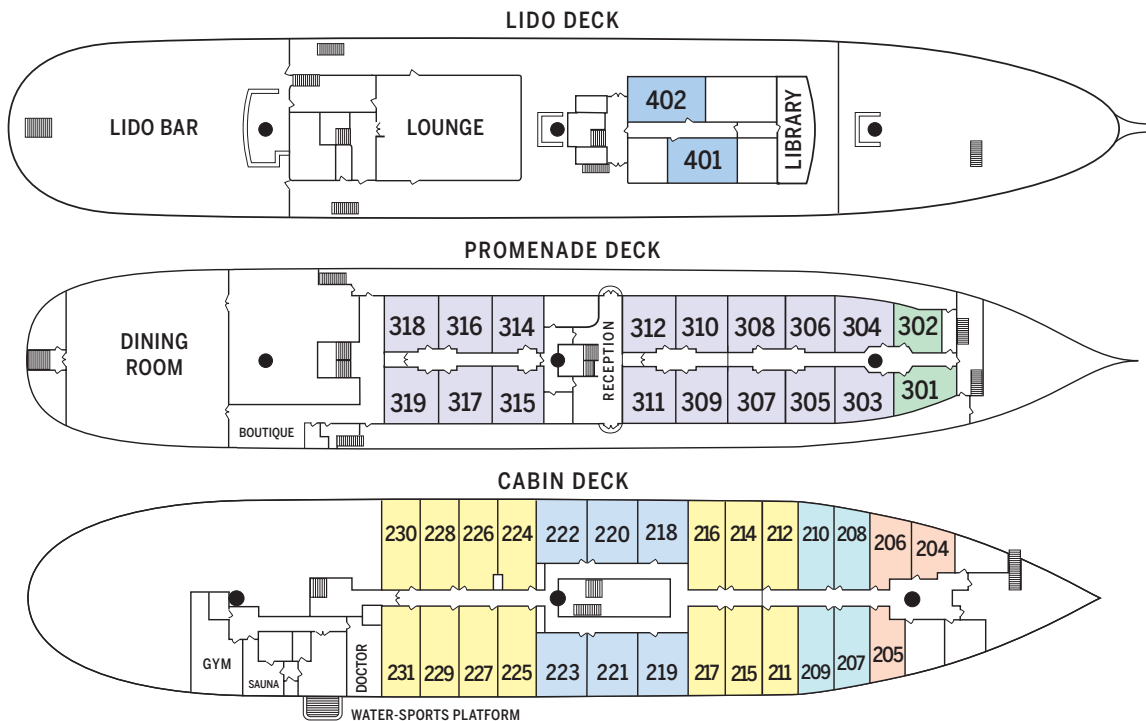
Sea Cloud II

Rates Per Person

CATEGORY/DECK	DOUBLE RATES	SINGLE RATES
204 to 206	\$9,999	\$12,499
Cabins; Cabin Deck; Upper/lower twin berths, shower		
207 to 210	\$11,999	\$17,999
Superior Cabins; Cabin Deck; Twin beds, shower		
211 to 217 & 224 to 231	\$12,999	\$19,499
Deluxe Cabins; Cabin Deck; Twin beds, shower		
218 to 223	\$14,999	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins; Cabin Deck; Twin beds, shower		
301 & 302	\$16,999	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins; Promenade Deck; Twin beds, shower		
303 to 319	\$18,999	Inquire
Junior Suites; Promenade Deck; Twin beds, bathtub with shower		
401 & 402	\$20,999	Inquire
Owner's Suites; Lido Deck; Queen-size bed, bathtub, and separate shower		



Sea Cloud II Lido Deck (top) and Junior Suite (above)



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Terms & Conditions

AA&D Community Expectations: Harvard University Alumni Affairs & Development (AA&D) programs and volunteer opportunities respect the rights, differences, and dignity of others. Those taking part in AA&D activities, including travel programs developed by Harvard Alumni Travels for the Harvard Alumni Association ("HAA"), are expected to demonstrate honesty, integrity, and civility and are accountable for their conduct with University alumni, students, parents, volunteers, employees, and invitees.

AA&D reserves the right to suspend services to—and to exclude from participation in AA&D programs—any person whose inappropriate behavior adversely affects the safety, well-being, and inclusion of community members.

Contract: Harvard Alumni Association does not itself conduct tours, but instead partners with several different tour operators to offer a broad range of travel programs. Tour participants contract directly with tour operators, although HAA is available to act as a liaison with tour operators should participants have any questions or concerns. HAA is not responsible for performing any of the tour operator's obligations. The tour operator for this program is Arrangements Abroad, based in New York, NY.

Program Cost Inclusions: Seven nights cabin accommodations aboard *Sea Cloud II* as per itinerary; Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); Bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals; Thoughtfully selected wines and beer at lunches and dinners; complimentary open bar available during the cruise; Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights; Enrichment program of lectures and special events; Escorted sightseeing by private motorcoach; Entrance fees for included visits; Customary shipboard gratuities; enrichment program of lectures and talks; escorted sightseeing by private motorcoach; entrance fees for included visits; customary taxes, service, and portage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers.

Program Cost Exclusions: International airfare; passport/visa fees; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on suggested group flights; baggage in excess of one suitcase; optional Palermo postlude; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Program Size *Sea Cloud II* can accommodate up to 80 passengers for this voyage. Harvard passengers will be joined by guests from the co-sponsoring institutions of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, as well as potential independent travelers.

HAA reserves the right to cancel the program, levy a small group surcharge, and/or send the program

without a Harvard study leader. HAA retains the right to add staff members and/or invited guests to any group departures regardless of the stated group-size limitation.

Reservations, Deposits & Final Payment: To reserve a space on this program, a \$1,000 deposit is required per person. Reservations are acknowledged in order of receipt until the maximum enrollment has been reached. Final payment is due June 3, 2022 (120 days before departure), payable by cash, check (payable to "Arrangements Abroad") wire transfer, ACH, debit card, or American Express credit card. Participants will receive an invoice directly from Arrangements abroad for all subsequent payments after the initial deposit.

Participant Cancellations & Refunds: *Notification of cancellation must be received in writing by the tour operator with a copy to HAA from the participant.* No deposit refunds will be given for cancellations received after June 3, 2022. Subsequent payments are subject to the cancellation fees as follows: 120 to 91 days prior to departure: 20% of the Program cost is non-refundable. 90 to 61 days before departure: 50% of the Program cost is non-refundable. 60 days or less before departure: 100% of the Program cost is non-refundable. No refunds will be given for cancellations on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason.

Trip Insurance: Neither HAA nor the tour operator, including all representatives, employees, and agents, will take responsibility for any costs or losses incurred or suffered by a participant, or a participant's dependents or traveling companions before, during or after the tour. This includes, without limitation, cancellation or curtailment of the tour, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, or damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money, and goods. As noted below, neither HAA nor its tour operators shall be liable for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a nonrefundable airline ticket or for any other expenses incurred by tour participants in preparing for the tour.

HAA highly recommends the purchase of trip insurance to cover unforeseen trip interruptions, cancellations, lost baggage, and emergency medical assistance and evacuation. Participants may purchase trip insurance through any provider. HAA will provide information from one provider, Redpoint Resolutions, upon confirmation, which will detail available options. If a participant purchases a trip insurance policy from Redpoint Resolutions within a 14-day window, then the pre-existing medical conditions exclusion will be waived, and the participant will be eligible to purchase the "Cancel for Any Reason" upgrade. The 14-day window

begins on the first day the participant's trip deposits become non-refundable. For participants who utilize a trip credit to book the trip, the 14-day window starts the first day the participant is subject to financial penalty for cancellation, including full or partial loss of the trip credit. An insurance policy, when issued, shall constitute a contract only between the participant and the insurance provider. HAA will not intervene in any transactional issues or claim disputes between the participant and the insurance provider.

Air Arrangements International airfare is not included in the cost of the program. The tour operator can assist you with your air arrangements. Neither the Harvard Alumni Association nor the tour operator accepts the liability for any airline cancellation penalty incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable airline ticket. The air ticket when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the passenger and the airline concerned. Airfare is subject to change and availability and is nonrefundable. Your airline ticket constitutes a contract between you and the airline, even if purchased through Operator.

What to Expect/Physical Health: Due to the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), participants should anticipate rules and restrictions to be enforced at airports, on flights, and at country entry points, as well as protocols in place during the program to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Updates will be provided closer to departure.

All participants must be in overall good health to participate in a HAA trip. All programs require physical independence and mobility: participants must be able to embark or disembark all conveyances used on the program alone or with minimal assistance from a traveling companion and must be able to climb stairs and step over raised thresholds without assistance.

Participants requiring assistance **must** travel with a companion who will be responsible for handling any required equipment. Any physical or mental health condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be disclosed in writing prior to booking so that HAA and the tour operator may evaluate whether participation is feasible. All participants should consult with their doctor about whether they can meet the physical requirements of their trip and must complete and return any medical forms required by the tour operator.

Participants with **dietary restrictions** also must make these known to the tour operator well before departure, otherwise the tour operator may not be able to accommodate them.

Preparing For The Tour: Participants will be provided with comprehensive pre-departure travel information, including specific suggestions for packing.

Terms & Conditions

Changes in Itinerary Program, Staffing & Costs:

The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of HAA and the tour operator. HAA reserves the right to change program dates, staff (including study leader), itineraries, or accommodations as conditions warrant. HAA further reserves the right to cancel programs, levy a small group surcharge, send a program without a study leader and/or withdraw HAA sponsorship from a program. Please note that all participants are bound to the cancellation fee schedule and other terms and conditions of the program regardless of whether HAA takes any of these actions. Participants making deviations from the scheduled itinerary do so at their own expense. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares, and currency exchange rates in effect as of the date of this publication and are subject to change.

Failure to Operate the Tour or Cancellation of the Tour by the Tour Operator:

If the tour operator fails to operate the tour or cancels the tour, *except* as a direct result of adverse weather conditions, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, significant health concerns (such as epidemics or pandemics requiring significant travel disruptions), or other such causes beyond HAA and the tour operator's reasonable control (Force Majeure Events), then the tour operator shall refund all monies received from tour participants. If the tour operator's failure to operate the tour or cancellation of the tour is a direct result of a Force Majeure Event, then the tour operator may provide tour participants a refund consisting, in whole or in part, of credit toward future travel. Tours also shall be cancelled if the U. S. State Department, another U.S. government agency, or a relevant local government agency issues a statement within sixty (60) days of tour departure to the effect that American citizens or others should not travel except for essential reasons to any of the destinations on the itinerary for that tour. In such case, the tour operator will provide an alternate tour with a revised or substitute itinerary and may provide tour participants who choose not to travel on the alternate itinerary a refund consisting, in whole or in part, of credit toward future travel.

Curtailment of the Tour by the Tour Operator: If a tour is curtailed after it has begun, either as a direct result of a Force Majeure Event, or because the U. S. State Department, another U.S. government agency, or a relevant local government agency has issued a statement to the effect that American citizens or others should not travel except for essential reasons to the remaining destinations on the itinerary for that tour, then the tour operator will take immediate steps to end the tour early and assist tour participants with travel arrangements back to their homes or other final destinations. In such a case, the tour operator may provide tour participants a refund for the number of missed days on the original tour consisting, in whole or in part, of credit toward future travel. The calculation for any such refund shall take into account any non-recoverable prepayments, and any additional expenses incurred by the tour operator to wind up the tour early.

Responsibility: The tour operator, its owners, and employees act only as agents for the various independent suppliers and contractors providing transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurants, and other services connected with this tour. Such travel, accommodations, and services are subject to the terms and conditions under which they are offered or provided, and HAA and the tour operator, along with their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns, accept no liability therefor. Neither HAA nor the tour operator assumes liability for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or other irregularity which may be caused by the defect of any aircraft or vehicle or the negligence or default of any company or person engaged in carrying out or performing any of the services involved. Nor will HAA and the tour operator accept responsibility for losses, injury, damages, or expenses of any kind due to Force Majeure Events, other than as provided above. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws of the country in which they are provided. HAA and the tour operator reserve the right to make changes in the published itinerary whenever, in their sole judgment, they deem it necessary for the comfort, convenience, or safety of the tour participants. HAA and the tour operator may, in their sole judgment, decline to accept or retain any person as a tour participant. Baggage and personal effects are always the sole responsibility of their owners. The price of the program is given in good faith based on current tariffs and rates and is subject to change. Any increases in tariffs, exchange rates, or fuel prices will be passed onto participants. As part of the consideration and right to participate in a tour, each participant must sign this document and may be asked to sign a separate liability waiver and release form by the tour operator.

Personal Information: HAA and the tour operator will not share participants' personal information with third parties or make it publicly available except as follows: participants' names, degree(s), home city, and email addresses may be included in the tour participant list that is distributed to tour staff and participants prior to departure; and relevant information about participants is shared with those contracted to provide tour services in the destination. Tour operators and their agents are prohibited from sharing or selling this information to other parties. Participants may opt out of sharing their email addresses with others on the tour participant list.

Appearing in Photos: Photos from Harvard trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by HAA or by other travelers, and these materials may be circulated worldwide. Trip photos also may be selected to appear in future Harvard Alumni Travels promotions; in such cases, HAA will attempt to notify the traveler in advance, but no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes.

Disclaimer: Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information

presented in this document. HAA is not responsible for errors in or damages resulting from the use of the information contained herein. Information contained in this document is subject to change.

Assumption of Risk: Tour participants understand and agree that participation in the tour involves risks that include, without limitation, risks involved in travel; political, legal, medical, social, economic, and weather conditions; standards of design, safety, and maintenance of buildings, public places, and conveyances that may differ from those to which they are accustomed; and health and safety standards that may differ from those to which they are accustomed. Without limiting the foregoing, tour participants understand and agree that there are risks associated with the possibility of an epidemic or pandemic, the trajectory of which may be unpredictable, and that as a result of such an epidemic or pandemic, local and national governments may enact border, travel, and stay-at-home restrictions, and health care systems may become overwhelmed. Tour participants recognize that they may be subjected to potential risks, illnesses, injuries, and even death and confirm that they have made their own investigation of these risks, understand them, and assume them knowingly and willingly. Knowing the risks described herein, tour participants agree, on behalf of their family, heirs, and personal representative(s), to assume all risks and responsibilities surrounding their participation in the tour.

Release and Indemnification: By signing below (or by checking the respective box on the on-line registration form), I certify that I am age 18 or older and that I have carefully read and freely signed these Travel Terms and Conditions on my own behalf and on behalf of all members of my party. To the maximum extent permitted by law, I release, hold harmless and agree to indemnify Harvard, and its officers, governing board members, faculty, staff, representatives, employees and agents, from and against any present or future claims, losses, liabilities, costs and expenses for injury to person or property, or for any other damage, which I may suffer, or for which I may be liable to any other person, related to my participation in the tour resulting from any cause, including but not limited to negligence on my part or on the part of any of the released parties.

I understand and agree that no oral or written representations can or will alter the contents of this document. I agree that this agreement shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts (excluding its conflict of laws principles), which shall be the forum for any lawsuits filed under or incident to this agreement or the tour.

QUESTIONS: Please call Harvard Alumni Travels at 800-422-1636 or 617-496-0806, or email haatravels@harvard.edu.



Segesta, photo by Claire Cox(top) and Catania (bottom)



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**CLICK HERE
TO REGISTER
ONLINE**

Trip Registration Is Easy

Step 1: Click this link:

alumni.harvard.edu/haatripform

Step 2: Fill out the online form with your contact information and payment details.

Step 3: Look for an email confirmation from HAA.

TRAVEL WITH HARVARD

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](https://alumni.harvard.edu/travel)

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