

2023

HARVARD ALUMNI TRAVELS

DISCOVER • LEARN • CONNECT • EXPLORE



SICILY BY SAIL

Round-Trip Valletta Aboard *Sea Cloud II*

October 10 – 18, 2023

with Harvey V. Fineberg, MD, PhD and Mary Elizabeth Wilson, MD



HARVARD
Alumni Travels



Ortygia, Sicily

Sicily By Sail: Round-Trip Valletta Aboard *Sea Cloud II*

Circumnavigate Sicily on a magical Mediterranean journey aboard the luxurious *Sea Cloud II*. Step ashore in ancient towns and go behind the scenes of Baroque churches, lavish *palazzos*, and some of Europe's most spectacular Greek temples.

Sail to ancient UNESCO-listed Agrigento and the Valle dei Templi, beautiful Greek temples that rival Athens's Acropolis. Explore the splendid Greek temple at Segesta, which has retained all 36 of its Doric columns from the fifth century B.C. In Palermo, take a special inside look at the 12th-century Cappella Palatina, with its breathtaking golden mosaics. On the island of Lipari, discover Neolithic treasures inside a 16th-century Norman castle.

On the Italian mainland, call at Reggio Calabria to view the *Riace Bronzes*, a pair of 2,500-year-old life-sized bronze statues of Greek warriors. Upon return to Sicily, accompany a Sicilian baron on a private tour of his Baroque *palazzo* in Syracuse, and take a special tour of Syracuse's UNESCO-listed cathedral.

Cruise aboard *Sea Cloud II* in the company of members of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The National Trust for Historic Preservation and alumni from the University of Notre Dame. An optional prelude in Valletta is available.

Activity Level 3:

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 as you get 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 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 Leaders



Harvey V. Fineberg, MD, PhD Professor Emeritus of Health Policy and Management

Harvey V. Fineberg, MD, PhD, is professor emeritus of health policy and management at Harvard. He serves as president of the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and also chairs the board of the Carnegie Endowment for

International Peace and serves on the boards of the Hewlett Foundation and the China Medical Board. Fineberg has devoted most of his academic career to the fields of health care, public health, and decision-making at the individual level and for policy. He served as president of the Institute of Medicine for 12 years, concluding in June 2014, and was dean of the Harvard School of Public Health from 1984 to 1997 and provost of Harvard University from 1997 to 2001.



Mary Elizabeth Wilson, MD Adjunct Professor of Global Health and Population

Mary Elizabeth Wilson, MD is adjunct professor of global health and population, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, and visiting professor at University of California, San Francisco. Her academic interests include the

ecology of infections and emergence of microbial threats, travel medicine, and vaccines. She has served on the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the CDC, the Academic Advisory Committee for the National Institute of Public Health in Mexico, and on five committees for the Institute of Medicine. Dr. Wilson worked in Haiti at the Albert Schweitzer Hospital during her infectious diseases fellowship at Harvard. She helped to develop the Harvard-Brazil collaborative course held in Brazil, has taught in Peru, and has traveled extensively in Asia and Latin America.

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



Map of the region (left), Cappella Palatina, Palazzo dei Normanni, Palermo, Sicily (right) and Lipari, Italy (below)

Schedule by Day

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10

Departure

Depart on an overnight flight to Valletta.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11

Valletta, Malta / Embark Sea Cloud II

Upon arrival in Valletta, transfer to the Phoenicia Hotel, where you will meet fellow travelers and enjoy a light lunch. This afternoon, embark the awaiting *Sea Cloud II*. Enjoy a toast on deck as we sail to Porto Empedocle on Sicily.

L,D

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12

Porto Empedocle (Sicily), Italy / Agrigento

Pindar, one of the greatest classical Greek poets, called Agrigento "the most beautiful city built by mortal men." After calling at Porto Empedocle this afternoon, transfer to the UNESCO-listed archaeological area of Agrigento and the ruins of the Valle dei Templi (Valley of the Temples). The Tempio della Concordia, one of the world's best-preserved Greek temples, famously inspired the UNESCO logo. This evening, the captain will host a welcome reception and dinner.

B,L,R,D

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13

Trapani

Call at the port of Trapani this morning. From there, you may choose to transfer to Segesta, where you will explore its splendid Greek temple and theater. Alternatively, travel along the coast to Marsala, where you will take a walking tour, followed by a wine tasting in one of the area's renowned historical wineries.

B,L,D

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14

Palermo

In the Sicilian capital of Palermo, take a morning visit to the Cappella Palatina, a 12th-century chapel known for its intricate golden mosaics, located in the UNESCO-listed Palazzo dei Normanni, the Royal Palace of Palermo. Then head to Palazzo Abatellis to view an array of marvelous sculptures and paintings. Afterwards, drive to Monreale to explore the grand Norman cathedral, featuring vividly colorful mosaics depicting stories from both the Old and New Testaments. End the day with cocktails at a private *palazzo* before returning to the ship for dinner. Alternatively, you may enjoy some time at leisure ashore this evening, savoring a traditional Sicilian dinner at one of Palermo's many acclaimed restaurants.

B,L,D



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Lipari

During a morning at sea, experience the thrill of sailing aboard our fine ship, attending lectures and delighting in the grace and romance of a bygone era of travel. This afternoon, arrive on Lipari, one of the seven islands of the Aeolian Archipelago, with its distinctive pumice slopes. Lipari is the mythological home of Aeolus, the god of the winds. Dominating the main town is a 16th-century Norman castle built on the site of an ancient acropolis. Now an archaeological museum, it houses one of the world's most outstanding collections of Neolithic treasures, which you will peruse on a special tour.

B,L,D

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



Madonna della Lettera statue, Strait of Messina, Sicily (left); Syracuse Cathedral, Chapel ceiling (detail), Sicily and Roman theater, Syracuse (below left)

MONDAY, OCTOBER 16

Reggio Calabria, Calabria

On the tip of mainland Italy's boot, arrive at Reggio Calabria, which overlooks the Strait of Messina and boasts incredible views over Sicily and the Etna volcano. This morning, tour the Museo Nazionale della Magna Græcia, which holds a superb collection of prehistoric Graeco-Roman and medieval antiques. View rare surviving Greek bronze sculptures including the stunning *Head of a Philosopher*, considered the only Greek portrait head in existence, and the *Riace Bronzes*, the celebrated heroic statues of Greek warriors found in the sea in 1972. Afterwards, head to the municipal theater, which is named in honor of composer Francesco Cilea. Inside the theater, discover the Pinacoteca Civica, a hidden gem of a gallery housing works by Antonello da Messina, Mattia Preti, and other well-known artists. Alternatively, you may opt for a stroll along the stunning waterfront and/or the



lovely pedestrian shopping street Corso Garibaldi. Return to the ship for lunch and an afternoon under sail as we return to Sicily. B,L,D

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17

Syracuse, Sicily

Explore Syracuse, one of the most important cities in antiquity, touted by Cicero as "the greatest Greek city." On beautiful Ortygia Island, Syracuse's historical center, see the Duomo di Siracusa (the Cathedral of Syracuse), a UNESCO World Heritage Site built on the ruins of the Tempio di Athena. Venture to the Basilica Santa Lucia al Sepolcro for a viewing of Caravaggio's 1608 oil painting *Burial of Saint Lucy*, which depicts the burial of Syracuse's patron saint. Then, by special invitation, join a Sicilian baron at his glamorous Baroque home, Palazzo Beneventano del Bosco, for a tour and light refreshments. This afternoon, discover the well-preserved Greek and Roman theaters of the Parco Archeologico della Neapolis. In the evening, attend the captain's farewell reception and dinner. B,L,R,D

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18

Valletta, Malta / Disembark

Disembark *Sea Cloud II* in Valletta this morning and transfer to the airport for flights home. B

Optional Prelude in Valletta, Malta

OCTOBER 8–11, 2023

Discover why the Maltese capital of Valletta has earned its status as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its extraordinary concentration of historic and prehistoric areas. Highlights include an after-hours tour of the 16th-century St. John's Co-Cathedral, housing some of Europe's most opulent Baroque interiors; a special visit to the Grandmaster's Palace; and a private reception at a 16th-century *palazzo*. Before joining the main program, enjoy private tours at historic sites outside the city such as St. Paul's Catacombs; Domus Romana, a first-century-A.D. Roman villa with beautiful mosaics; and the UNESCO-listed Hagar Qim, one of the world's oldest free-standing temples.

Prelude rate per person:
\$2,199 double rate /
\$2,699 single rate

Optional prelude rate includes: Two nights at the Phoenicia Hotel in Valletta with two breakfasts, one reception, and one dinner. Sightseeing as noted.

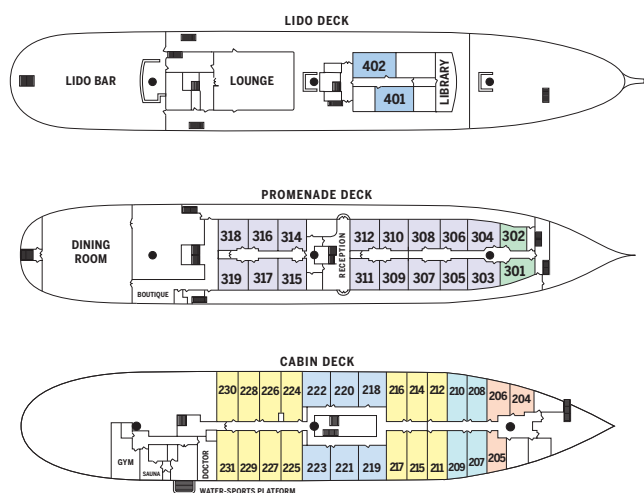
FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](https://alumni.harvard.edu/travel)

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 Include

- Seven nights cabin accommodations on *Sea Cloud II*
- All meals noted on 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 with onboard lunches and dinners; complimentary open bar throughout the cruise (including all standard spirits)
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Airport/pier/airport group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; customary shipboard gratuities
- Taxes, service, and portage charges

Not Included: International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than as noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those on suggested flights; excess baggage; optional Valletta prelude; optional trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Rates Per Person

CABIN NUMBERS	DECKS	DOUBLE RATES	SINGLE RATES
204 to 206	Cabin	\$8,999	\$13,499
Cabins. Upper/lower twin berths, shower.			
207 to 210	Cabin	\$11,999	\$17,999
Superior Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
211 to 217 & 224 to 231	Cabin	\$13,999	\$20,999
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
218 to 223	Cabin	\$15,999	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
301 & 302	Promenade	\$16,499	Inquire
Deluxe Cabins. Twin beds, shower.			
303 to 319	Promenade	\$17,999	Inquire
Junior Suites. Twin beds, bathtub with shower.			
401 & 402	Lido	\$21,999	Inquire
Owner's suites. Queen-size bed, bathtub, and separate shower.			



Sea Cloud II Lido Deck (left) and Junior Suite (right)

Trip Registration page: Riace Bronze, Italy (top); and Mt.Etna, Sicily (bottom)

B_231010SC2IST_HAA CST 2059789-40

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



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 Harvard Alumni Travels.

To review this program's terms and
conditions, visit [alumni.harvard.edu/travel/
trips/sicily-2023](https://alumni.harvard.edu/travel/trips/sicily-2023).

TRAVEL WITH HARVARD

QUESTIONS? **CONTACT US AT** [ALUMNI.HARVARD.EDU/TRAVEL](https://alumni.harvard.edu/travel) 800-422-1636

HAATRAVELS@HARVARD.EDU

