Flavors of Sicily

An Engaging Odyssey Featuring Cultural Experiences, Archaeological Excursions, and Vineyard Explorations in the Shadow of Mount Etna

*Vineyards, Villas, and the Volcano*
Dear Fellow Columbian,

Join alumni and friends from October 12 – 20, 2018, and immerse yourself in an adventure that feeds all your senses. Explore Sicily's ancient and archaeological history, and interact with locals—including farmers, vintners, and chefs—who make this friendly island come alive. With Sicilian wine, cuisine, and culture as your inspiration, and a luxurious accommodation as your home base, embrace the beauty of Sicily on an intimate, small-group, and authentically Sicilian experience. Journey through the landscape with expert guides who will thoughtfully introduce you to the traditions of this captivating place, and return home with stories to share and memories that will remain with you forever.

The Columbia Alumni Association (CAA) is a global network connecting Columbians of all Schools to one another and to the intellectual and social fabric of Columbia University, even after graduation. It links over 330,000 alumni through more than 100 Regional Clubs and Shared Interest Groups, online resources, and over 200 thought-provoking programs around the world. The CAA Travel Study Program is one of the benefits offered to alumni and is an opportunity to continue one’s Columbia education through new intellectual, cultural, and geographical horizons.

Space is limited, and will be shared with participants from cosponsoring alumni associations. Please contact the Alumni Travel Study Program office at (866) 325-8664, or travelstudy@columbia.edu for more details and to reserve your place today.

Kind Regards,

Donna H. MacPhee '89CC, P: '17CC
Vice President for Alumni Relations
President, Columbia Alumni Association

Free Wine Gift

AN EARLY RESERVATION BONUS

Reserve your space by February 16, 2018 to receive six bottles of Sicilian wine featuring labels by vintners in the regions you will visit during this program!

This Orbridge exclusive gift is to thank you for joining us early. Where shipping is prohibited by state law or by retailer licensing obligations, guests in those states will receive other specialty items of comparable value.

See reservation form for more details.**
Taste Sicilian Life

See how Greek, Roman, Byzantine, Arab, Norman, German, French and Spanish influences have formed this magnificent island of fertility.

We invite you to join our company of friendly Sicilian guides, chefs, and vintners for a discovery of the true Sicily. With breathtaking natural beauty, deep history, and a fabled cuisine that must be savored slowly, this is a journey that will allow you the time to explore and appreciate Italy’s most colorful region.

From coastal towns and archaeological sites to farms and vineyards in the shadow of Mount Etna, Sicily offers a bounty for the mind, heart, and all the senses.

Benvenuti!
Your 9-Day Itinerary *(subject to change)*

**Day 1:** En route from U.S.

**Day 2:** Arrive in Catania, Sicily / Giarre (D)
Welcome dinner
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 3:** Taormina (B,D)
Guided city walk, ancient Greek theatre, Corso Umberto stroll, leisure time
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 4:** Piazza Armerina (B,L,D)
Guided visit to UNESCO World Heritage Site of Villa Romana del Casale, 4th-century Roman mosaics
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 5:** Viagrande / Catania (B,L,D)
Outdoor market visit, cooking class, wine tasting at Benanti winery (winner of over 80 awards since 1994)
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 6:** Mount Etna (B,L,D)
Visit to highest active volcano in Europe and UNESCO World Heritage Site or leisure time at the villa; lunch and wine tasting at award-winning Planeta winery
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 7:** Siracusa / Ortigia (B,D)
UNESCO World Heritage Site founded by Greek Corinthians and Teneans, Roman amphitheatre, seaside stroll
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 8:** Taormina (B,L,D)
Cooking class, special farewell dinner at the villa
Overnight: Don Arcangelo all’Olmo

**Day 9:** Depart Catania, Sicily (B)

Optional Extension: Days 9-11 in Palermo

**Program Highlights**

- Tour Sicily’s main attractions, admire the stunning surroundings, and relax in the exceptional comforts of your private villa.
- Working side-by-side in the kitchens of celebrated chefs, learn time-tested techniques and modern twists with locally grown food and boutique wines.
- Visit the coastal towns of Taormina, Catania, and Siracusa.
- Experience for yourself the vivid, flamboyant outdoor markets that breathe life into everyday shopping in Sicily.
- Take in Sicily’s archaeological masterpieces: the ancient theatres of Taormina and Siracusa, and the Villa Romana del Casale mosaics in Piazza Armerina.

**What’s Included**

- 7 nights accommodations at award-winning Don Arcangelo all’Olmo
- 7 breakfasts, 4 lunches, and 7 dinners served with wine
- All lessons, private tours, and unique small-group excursions noted on the 9-day itinerary
- Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director and expert local guides
- Private motor coach transportation, luggage handling, and airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, wait staff for included meals, drivers, and porters

**Activity Level:** Guests should be able to enjoy two hours or more of walking, be sure-footed on cobbled surfaces, and walk up and down hillsides and stairs without assistance.
Your Accommodations (subject to change)

Don Arcangelo all’Olmo, lovingly known as L’Olmo, is a Think Exquisite villa from the award-winning villa company The Thinking Traveller, and it sits serenely between Mount Etna and the Ionian Sea. Once a farm building on a wine-producing estate, the property was painstakingly restored to create the grand villa that exists today.

L’Olmo’s 24-guest capacity provides patrons an atmosphere of exclusivity—that feeling of having the surroundings nearly all to one’s self.

Property amenities include fine dining that features locally-sourced ingredients, complimentary internet, large sitting area with open fireplace, outdoor pool and Jacuzzi, colorful gardens, and fitness room.

**Classic Double:** Impeccably designed for comfort, these rooms are located in Casa all’Olmo—a luxuriously restored farm house next to the main building.

**Deluxe Double:** Spacious and bright, these classically appointed rooms are in Casale, the main building.

All rooms include air conditioning, iPod docking station, and en suite bathroom.

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Insider, Interpreter, Epicure, Host

Your Orbridge Travel Director will infuse your journey with an epicure’s appreciation of food and wine, a local’s knowledge and pride of place, and a travel aficionado’s ability to gather the beauty of all senses to your discoveries in Sicily.
Optional Extension
Palermo

Enjoy Sicily's fascinating and bustling capital, Palermo. The city, which is over 2,700 years old, is rich in history, culture, art, music, and gourmet cuisine. Also visit the seaside village of Cefalù—home to just 14,000 residents and one of the most popular attractions near Palermo. Cefalù is known for its various Greek ruins, delightful streets lined with colorful shops, and its sandy beaches.

Extension Itinerary (subject to change)

Day 9: Depart Taormina / Cefalù / Arrive in Palermo (B) 
Guided panoramic tour of Cefalù, the Duomo, and beaches

Day 10: Palermo (B) 
Full-day guided panoramic city tour including Mercato di Capo, Jewish Quarter, the opera house Teatro Politeama, “La Cala,” Piazza Indipendenza, Porta Nuova, Piazza del Parlamento, the gardens of Villa Bonanno; and visit inside Monreale Cathedral and Teatro Massimo

Day 11: Depart Palermo for U.S. (B)

What’s Included

• Group transfer to Palermo.
• Two nights accommodations at Grand Hotel Villa Igiea (or similar), with breakfast each morning.
• Introductory tour of Cefalù to see the old walls and beach.
• Guided walking tour through the historic center of Palermo plus a panoramic tour that includes glimpses of Teatro Politeama, “La Cala,” Piazza del Parlamento, and visit inside Monreale Cathedral.
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OCTOBER 12-20, 2018
Palermo Extension: October 20-22, 2018

SPECIAL RATE
Category Standard Rate Special Rate*
Classic Double $5,492 $4,995
Deluxe w/Sea View $6,992 $5,995
Classic Single $7,392 $6,995

Palermo Extension: $1,395*
Single Extension: $1,895

Secure your reservation with a deposit charged to the credit card below, or with an enclosed check payable to: Orbridge LLC.

Guest Information:

Guest #1 Name:_______________________________________________________ Class Year _____________
Guest #2 Name:_______________________________________________________ Class Year _____________

City:________________________ State:______________ Zip:__________________
Email:______________________________________________________________ Phone:__________________________ Alt. Phone:__________________________
Category Preference (if applicable): 1st choice____________________ 2nd choice____________________

Deposit:
(#) __________ guests joining program ($850/person) +
(#) __________ guests joining extension ($500/person) = Total deposit: $________

Deposit Payment:
☐ Check enclosed ☐ Online Check/ACH ☐ MasterCard/Visa ☐ American Express ☐ Discover
Card #:_____________________________________________Exp. date: _______________ CVV:____________

Name (as printed on card): _______________________________________________________________________
Billing address (if different from above): ___________________________________________________________
City:___________________________________________State:_______________Zip: ______________________

Signature:__________________________________________________________ Date:_____________________

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at http://terms.orbridge.com and detailed in program documents; and that Orbridge LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/our deposit for this program.

For more information: Please call (866) 325-8664 or visit http://alumni.columbia.edu/travel

CUT HERE

Registration, Deposits and Final Payment. To confirm and secure your reservation, a deposit of $850 per person per program, a deposit for any extension(s), and any non-refundable, advanced payments, payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, wire transfer of same day U.S. funds, or major credit card, is due at the time of registration. Final payment, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is payable by check, online check/ACH, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds and due no later than 90 days prior to the scheduled program departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the date the program starts, the entire cost of the program, including any extension(s) and optional(s), is due at the time of registration by check, money order, or wire transfer of same day U.S. funds. Final payments made by credit card are subject to a 2% transaction fee. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. All payments we receive from you are herein defined as "Payments."

Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing and will be subject to a cancellation fee ("Cancellation Fee") as follows: (a) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 275 and 274 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be $500; (b) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge between 151 and 274 days prior to the scheduled departure date and the day before the final payment due date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full deposit per person per program including any extension; (c) if the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge until 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date, the Cancellation Fee will be the full program price. In addition to and in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, of any Payments in excess of the aggregate Cancellation Fee shall be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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OCTOBER 12-20, 2018

Special Rate: Save more than $800 per couple

Free Orbridge Wine Gift

When you reserve by February 16, 2018**

Columbia Alumni Travel Study Program
P.O. Box 930
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