



## The Best of the Mediterranean (#18531)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **28-11-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### Trip Highlights

Valletta - Pozzallo - Catania - Syracuse - Valletta

### Detailed Itinerary

#### Day 01

#### DAY 1: VALLETTA

Passengers are welcome to board our ship at 6 p.m. After comfortably settling into your cabins, we'll introduce our crew at a welcome cocktail before dinner on board. Enjoy an evening of entertainment.

#### Day 02

#### DAY 2: VALLETTA



## Included excursions:

Valletta in the morning. The splendid Maltese capital deserves a special visit. Perched on top of a steep cliff, its layout and architectural structures are remarkable. The city was built stone-by-stone by and for the Order of Knights of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem. We'll make an exclusive stop at Saint John's Co-Cathedral.

In the afternoon, set out to discover Malta's treasures by visiting the island's most beautiful sites. We'll visit the Hagar Qim temple complex, dating back to the beginning of the Bronze Age. Our next stop will be Marsaxlokk, a traditional fishing village. Its isolated location and deep waters have made it a strategic island location over the centuries.

Tonight's festivities will have a Maltese flair!

**Day 03****DAY 3: VALLETTA**

Join us for an included day trip to Gozo (lunch included). We'll set out on a full-day trip to a calm, heavenly oasis on the Gozo. We'll take the ferry from Cirkewwa to Gozo, admiring the gorgeous landscapes and scenery along the way, including the impressive, fortified citadel in the capital city of Rabat. You'll discover remains of the Azure Window, a 92-foot (28 m) limestone natural arch that collapsed completely in March 2017, as well as the bay of Xlendi. In the afternoon, we'll visit the megalithic temple complex of Ħgantija, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

LA BELLE DE L'ADRIATIQUE will then raise its anchor and begin to cruise to Sicily. Join the ship's crew on the Sun Deck for a cocktail as we admire one of the most beautiful ports in the world on our way out.

**Day 04****DAY 4: POZZALLO**

Included excursion this morning: Ragusa and Modica. Travel back in time when visiting these lovely UNESCO World Heritage sites. In Ragusa, you'll discover two cities in one: modern Ragusa rebuilt after the 1693 earthquake and ancient Hybla Heraia. The city's architectural gem is the Duomo of San Giorgio. We'll then continue on to Modica, a charming inland village snuggled on a hillside. Rebuilt after the 1693 earthquake, Modica is now a lively and dynamic city with oversized churches and steep stairs running from the bottom of the village to the top of the slope. During our tour, we'll stop at a chocolate factory to taste a recipe coming directly from the Aztecs.

We'll spend the afternoon cruising.



**Day 05****DAY 5: CATANIA**

Included excursions:

Catania in the morning. Located on the banks of the Ionian Sea and dominated by Mount Etna, you'll discover vast squares, wide streets, and lava-rock buildings in this splendid city. Its historic and artistic heritage is just waiting to be discovered.

Mount Etna in the afternoon.(1) Mount Etna is the largest active volcano in Europe, and we'll take you up to almost 6,400 feet (1950 m) to the Silvestri Craters near the top. The bleak lava wilderness around the summit of Etna is one of the most memorable landscapes you'll ever see.

**Day 06****DAY 6: SYRACUSE**

Included excursion this morning: Ortygia. One of the most fascinating cities in Sicily awaits us today. The 2,700-year-old city of Syracuse played a key role in ancient times when it was one of the major powers of the Mediterranean world. You'll visit Ortygia, the small island that is the historical center of the city. You'll come across the majestic ruins of the Greek Temple of Apollo, the Piazza Archimede, and the Piazza Duomo, an elliptical open space lined with harmonious and impressive buildings.

This afternoon, join us for an included excursion: Noto. Noto and its church were declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2002. Totally destroyed by the 1693 Sicilian earthquake, the current town was built on the left bank of River Asinaro, about eight miles from the previous town. Enjoy a stroll through the historical center and admire the buildings, do a bit of souvenir shopping, or indulge in a snack at a local café.

**Day 07****DAY 7: VALLETTA**

In the morning, LA BELLE DE L'ADRIATIQUE will enter the Grand Harbor, also known as the Port of Valletta, a baroque-style wharf dating back to the 18th century. Imposing fortifications and impressive architecture surround the picturesque port.

This afternoon, join us for an included excursion: Mdina and Rabat. Mdina is a veritable open-air museum. The ancient Maltese capital holds many treasures, among them several of the most beautiful homes in the country. You'll step back in time strolling through the labyrinth of streets lined with impressive palaces. We'll then head to Rabat, with archaeological



relics testifying to the town's importance during the Roman period. We'll visit Saint Paul's and Saint Agatha's Catacombs, the earliest and largest archaeological evidence of Christianity in Malta.

Tonight is our festive gala evening.

**Day 08****DAY 8: VALLETTA**

Enjoy breakfast on board this morning before disembarking at 9:00 a.m.

## Inclusions

Your cruise with all meals from dinner the first evening to breakfast on the final day - all onboard beverages (not including the special lists) - accommodations in a double-occupancy, climate-controlled cabin with shower in private bathroom - excursions mentioned in the program - onboard activities - assistance from our onboard, multi-lingual host/hostess - welcome cocktail - gala evening - emergency/repatriation insurance - all port fees.

## Exclusions

Drinks from our special wine list or drinks ordered during excursions or transfers - cancellation and baggage insurance - personal expenses.

## Note

\*Price based on double occupancy

Ship available for this cruise are MV La Belle de l'Adriatique.

Accommodation available for Pre and Post Cruise on request.

For other amazing cruise itineraries and destinations, please contact our Destination specialists.

Child discount (2-9 years) : - 20% (On request)

Valid national identity card or passport required. Non-EU nationals are advised to consult their embassy or consulate.



## HIGHLIGHTS

- Exclusive itinerary between Sicily and Malta
- The antique ruins and picturesque villages of Sicily
- Malta, a patchwork of cultures with megalithic ruins, baroque architecture, and superb natural sites
- THE MUST-SEE SITES:
  - Historical Syracuse
  - The baroque Sicilian villages of Noto, Ragusa, and Modica
  - Valletta, the island's capital
  - The neighboring island of Gozo

## THE GGTS DIFFERENCE

- **All meals included - DRINKS INCLUDED** with meals and at the bar
- Refined French cuisine - **Gala dinner and evening** - Welcome cocktail
- **Free Wi-Fi** onboard
- Headsets are included for excursions
- Official welcome from the captain and crew
- Onboard activities
- Travel assistance and repatriation insurance
- All port fees included

## Fixed Departure

**22 Nov, 2024**

Cruise

AUD 3,585 P P twin share

AVAILABLE

