

# Secrets of Sicily

Hotel-to-hotel  independent walking

- Majestic coastal and mountain scenery; interest-packed routes
- Mediaeval churches, ancient hill villages, marvellously preserved 2,500 year old temple at Segesta
- Turquoise seas, coral-lined grottoes, unspoilt sandy beaches
- Exceptionally friendly, family-run hotels; swimming possibilities most days
- Exotic Mediterranean flora and fauna: Bonelli's eagles, red kites, orange groves, olive trees and vines



This triple-center independent walking holiday uncovers the secrets of Sicily's western coast and favorite off-shore islands.

You'll start your holiday in the Moorish village of Scopello, on Sicily's north coastline, that lies adjacent to one of Italy's most pristine coastal nature reserves, the Riserva dello Zingaro. It's an undulating mix of orange groves, twisted olive trees, swaying vines and hidden bays lapped by azure seas. You then move on by private transfer / ferry to Marettimo, the most mountainous of the three so-called Egadi islands just off the western coast. This is a walker's paradise: cliff paths wind through Spanish broom and purple cistus to Saracen fortresses, Roman villas and coral lined sea grottoes. And boat trips to neighbouring islands are easily arranged.

For your final two days, you return to the mainland at San Vito Lo Capo. Highlights here include exploring the mediaeval hilltop town of Erice and hiking on Monte Cofano - stunning coastal vistas as far as Palermo.

All your hotels are special in their own contrasting ways. In Scopello you stay at Cinzia's *baglio* style hotel where, weather permitting, dinner is taken in the lovely courtyard; on Marettimo, your host, Fausto meets you at the jetty with a luggage trolley (there are no roads!) and takes you to his charming sea front residence (with pool and jacuzzi) just by the harbour where you are free to dine in the evenings; near San Vito you stay at Daniela's cozy 5 bedroom B&B hotel and enjoy great sea views from the luxuriant Mediterranean garden.



## SECRETS OF SICILY | DAY BY DAY

### Saturday Arrive in Scopello

We meet you at the airport and take to your hotel in Scopello (40 mins) where we brief you on your walking week before drinks on the terrace and dinner. You spend two nights here.

### Sunday Zingaro Nature Reserve 13km/8mi/3.5hr or 20km/12mi/6hr

There's lots of choice of distance for your first day - so you can walk as much or as little as you like. Wind your way up through asphodel, wild fennel, dwarf palm, pomegranate and citrus trees to amazing view points overlooking the stunning coastline of tiny sandy coves lapped by sapphire waters.

### Monday Segesta, Trapani and on to Marettimo

By private transfer (30 mins) to the 2,500 year old temple of Segesta and the marvellously preserved theatre. After lunch in Trapani to taste the famous *granite* – lemon, almond or even coffee flavoured - you catch the ferry to Marettimo (1hr), arriving in time for a swim or short walk before your first dinner in the old village. You spend three nights here.

### Tuesday Punta Libeccio Lighthouse Walk 14km/9mi/4.5hr

A path through pine woods and across citrus-carpeted hillsides takes you from the east of the south west coasts, with striking views from high above the village. There's complete peace and quiet as you picnic by the lighthouse - look out for red kites and Bonelli's eagles cruising the thermals - and gaze down at the sparkling waters and at the Egadi Islands shimmering in the distance.

### Wednesday Levanzo 7km/4mi/3.5hr

It's a short crossing to Levanzo where a coastal path bright with lilac scabious leads past deserted stone farm houses and olive trees to the Grotta del Genovese. Time to admire the marvellously well preserved 11BC cave paintings and engravings lining the cavern walls. The bay here is a good picnic spot. Time for a swim in the pool or jacuzzi before your final evening meal in Marettimo.

### Thursday Medieval Erice and on to San Vito lo Capo

Today you return to the mainland and visit the hilltop town of Erice. Its smooth marble winding streets reveal mediaeval churches, old city gates, ancient squares and a stunning Norman castle set against a backdrop of the entire north western shoreline. A private transfer takes you to Daniela's charming little B&B near San Vito lo Capo where you spend your final two nights.

### Friday Monte Cofano 10km/6mi/4hr

A scenic lift to the foot of Monte Cofano is followed by a gentle ascent through twisted olive trees - breathtaking views over the Bays of Bonagia. Descending, you reach an old *tonnara* (tuna factory) whose sapphire waters are perfect for a dip. Then a cliff path fringed with red valerian and field gladioli leads into the village of Cornino for late lunch before we meet you and take you back to your hotel.

### Saturday Leave for home

We take you to the airport (1hr) in time for your return flight.



*"We thoroughly enjoyed the holiday, beautiful scenery."*

Mr N Prior

## Dates and Prices

### Departs selected Saturdays

Departs selected Saturdays	Tour Only
2012 departures	
Apr 14, 21, 28, Oct 13	\$2,669
Apr 7, May 5, 12, Sep 29, Oct 6	\$2,722
May 19, Sep 15, 22	\$2,759
May 26, Jun 2, 9, Sep 1, 8	\$2,797

**Singles:** Add \$40 per night for sole occupancy of a double room. Solo traveler supplement is an additional \$638.

**Child:** This holiday is not suitable for children under 12.

**Room upgrade:** Prices from \$26 per person, per night, based on 2 sharing.

**Holiday type:** Independent walking, hotel-to-hotel, no minimum group size, however airport and luggage transfers are subject to at least 2 people (in total) booked on each departure.

**Departs:** Selected Saturdays from Apr 7 to Oct 13.

**Duration:** 8 days (7 nights).

**Meals:** Continental breakfast and 4 evening meals.

**Other details:** Entrance fees to Segesta (Monday) and ferry to Levanzo plus admission to the caves (Wednesday) not included. Allow 50 Euro/\$70. For "What your holiday price includes," see "Holiday Planning" section pp 48-51.

## Tailor-made travel choices

**Nearest Arrival Airport:** Palermo Airport.

Flights can be arranged from most US/CANADA airports, with connecting transfers as required, prices and details on request.

**The above prices include our standard transfers:** Palermo Airport at 16:15 (transfer to the hotel, 40 mins, provided). **Return:** Palermo Airport by 12:20 (transfer provided).

**Tour only:** Transfers included from Palermo Airport at 16:15, and back to Palermo Airport departing the hotel at 11:00.

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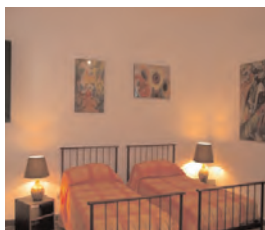
## SECRETS OF SICILY | WHERE YOU STAY



**Tenute Plaia Agriturismo**  
★★★★  
Scopello  
Days 1+2



**Marettimo Residence**  
●●●●  
Marettimo  
Days 3+4+5



**Baglio La Luna**  
●●●●  
San Vito Lo Capo  
Days 6+7

For extra nights we recommend Scopello, and city add-ons can be arranged in Palermo.

## SECRETS OF SICILY | WALKING DETAILS



This holiday follows mainly stony coastal paths, with frequent small ascents and descents. There's a good choice of walks at different levels on Marettimo, however walking boots are essential throughout.



**Average daytime temperature (°C):**

15 18 22 23 20  
APR MAY JUN SEP OCT



**Average monthly rainfall (mm):**

40 20 10 40 60  
APR MAY JUN SEP OCT

Further details at [www.breakaway-adventures.com](http://www.breakaway-adventures.com)