

A Week in Palermo with Allan Langdale

(including Monreale & Cefalu)



General Description:

This is an in-depth week in Palermo and its environs, including day trips to Cefalu, Monreale, and other significant art, archaeological, and architectural sights. We'll see the remarkable mosaic churches of the Palatine Chapel and the Martorana, the wonderful art nouveau theaters and Palermo's famous markets. It includes visits to Palermo's Archeological Museum, the Abatellis Museum and the Museum of Sicilian Puppetry as well as various other wonderful sights of the city. Explore Palermo with someone who can reveal its many secrets.

Introduction:

Dr. Allan Langdale is an art and architectural historian who has travelled widely in Italy, Turkey, Greece, and other Mediterranean and Middle Eastern countries. He often works on trips for Smithsonian Journeys, Lindblad/National Geographic, and Zegrahm Expeditions. He is the author of several articles and books such as *In a Contested Realm: An Illustrated Guide to the Art, Archaeology, and Architecture of Northern Cyprus* (2012) and *Palermo: Travels in the City of Happiness* (2015). You can find out more about Allan, and follow his travel blog, by searching on the internet for Allan's Art and Architecture Worlds.

Itinerary:

- Day 1:** Flights from Canada / USA to Palermo (via Rome). Transfers to hotel. I recommend the Grande Hotel des Palmes or in the area.
- Day 2:** Meet 10:00 for walk to the Palermo cathedral AM; lunch, then walk through the old town to the Fontana Pretoria. Dinner with group and briefing for following day.
- Day 3:** Meet 9:00 AM. Walking in old town to Porta Felice and on to the Palazzo Abatellis Museum. PM Markets and Baroque Churches of Palermo. Dinner on your own.
- Day 4:** Meet 10:00 AM and go to the Archaeological Museum. Lunch. Walk in the old town, visiting the Teatro Massimo, Piazza Ruggiero Settimo, the Capo Market, and examples of Fascist architecture. Dinner on your own.
- Day 5:** Meet 7:00 AM and go to train station for day outing to Cefalu. Return after lunch time. Dinner on your own.
- Day 6:** Meet 9:00 AM and visit the Palatine Chapel. AM. Lunch. PM take bus to Monreale. Return. Dinner on your own.
- Day 7:** Meet 9:00 AM for walk to San Cataldo and the Martorana Church PM Museum of Sicilian Puppetry OR Botanical Gardens. Dinner together with group. Briefing.
- Day 8:** Meet 9:00 AM, take bus to the Grotto of Santa Rosalia on Monte Pellegrino. PM Group farewell dinner.
- Day 9:** Transfers to airport for return journeys.





How the Trip Works

Guests are responsible for their own flights, airport transfers, hotel reservations, entry fees, meals and all sundry expenses of travel. In other words nothing is included in the trip. The advantage of this is that you can use your miles for the airfare and book hotel rooms that are within your desired price range (as long as we are all close to one another). The group size is limited to six people maximum, four minimum, who have good walking abilities and who are in good health. Travel and health insurance is required and a waiver exempting your Tour Leader from any liabilities must be signed before the commencement of the trip. We shall all rendezvous at a designated time and place and meet every day to enjoy the itinerary together. As your Tour Leader I'll facilitate all aspects of your days, including transportation (usually public transportation; though walking is involved). Guests will contribute \$75 per day per person for seven days. This will cover your Tour Leader's air fare, transportation, meals, lodging, site entry fees, and guiding and lecturing duties. Since the group will be small, we can have lectures (4-5 of them) in hotel rooms equipped with large screen TVs. This avoids the high costs for hotel conference rooms. Half the amount (\$260.00 per person) would be paid in advance two months before the journey, and the remainder in cash (US dollars or equivalent local currency) at the start of the trip. Tipping is entirely discretionary. Contact me regarding cancellation policies.

Allan Langdale's Contact Information:

Allan Langdale,
4385 Oak View Road
Santa Ynez, CA, 94560
Tel. (USA) 805.722.5731
E-mail: allanlangdale1@gmail.com
Website: <https://allansartworlds.sites.ucsc.edu/>

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