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## TRAVEL NEWS

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### Perillo Tours Offers New Sicily Escorted Tour Program

April 10, 2011 7:40 PM

Perillo Tours is now offering a new tour of Sicily called Splendid Sicily, a nine-day program that explores a fusion of Greek and Asian influences in Sicily's history, architecture and cuisine. Sicily, the largest island in the Mediterranean, is not a new destination for Perillo, but the operator has traditionally only offered it in combination with Italy. Now the company is offering Sicily-only tours.

Perillo, which has been identified with its tours to Italy since 1945, has historically included Sicily on its 14-day South and Sicily tour, which included Sicily's capital of Palermo as well as Taormina, with side trips to Monreale, Selinunte and Marsala, along with Sorrento and Rome, Italy. In November 2009, Perillo brought out Deluxe Sicily, a nine-day program focusing exclusively on Sicily, using five-star deluxe hotels. The new Splendid Sicily, put on market last November, is essentially the same nine-day itinerary using first-class instead of deluxe hotels. The company also offers travel to Hawaii and has offered Israel off and on over the years, but is currently not operating there.

Splendid Sicily is an essentially all-inclusive tour. The package price of \$2,590-\$2,790 per person double occupancy includes first-class accommodations for three nights in Palermo and four nights in Taormina, airport transfers, most meals and wine tastings. The itinerary includes visits to Monreale, Marsala, Selinunte, Piazza Armerina, Siracusa and Noto. The tour will have 15 departures between April 23 and Oct. 15.

The itinerary will explore the medieval streets and markets of Sicily's capital, Palermo, with its Norman architecture and Baroque churches, as well as the city of Taormina, settled on a hill of the Monte Tauro just 45 minutes from Mount Etna, the tallest active volcano in Europe. On the tour, guests will stay in the Grand Hotel et Des Palmes, centrally-located in the heart of the commercial and historic center of Palermo and near two of the most popular theatres in the city, Teatro Massimo and Teatro Politeama. Just a few steps away from downtown Taormina, Hotel Villa Diodoro is a four-star hotel where guests can enjoy views of Mount Etna and the Naxos Bay.

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Itinerary highlights include a wine tasting in Marsala (Palermo); Villa Romana del Casale in Piazza Armerina; a visit to the ancient Greek city of Selinus; a wine tasting and lunch at Mount Etna; and a visit to the World Heritage Site in Noto (Taormina). Group tours range from 20 to 40 people using deluxe motorcoaches with extra legroom. Single supplements are available as well as sharing opportunities. Perillo also offers its guests the option to extend their stay by arriving early or departing late. The tours have been crafted to balance activity with plenty of free time.

Prices include all costs aside from gratuity for the guides and airline flights; arrival and departure airport transfers in Italy; all accommodations in first-class hotels; a daily buffet breakfast, five dinners, and one lunch; two wine tastings and vineyard tours; professional tour directors and licensed local guides; wireless headsets for hearing guides clearly in public places; hotel taxes, hotel service charges and all tips for hotel and restaurant personnel; baggage handling (except at airport); and one tote bag per person, baggage tags and travel documents. For information, call 800-431-1515 or visit [www.perillotours.com](http://www.perillotours.com).

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