#### THE BEST MEDITERRENEAN ISLANDS SICILY – MALTA and CYPRUS, 16MARCH – 30MARCH (16DAYS/14NIGHTS)

Inflight Meals

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#### 16MAR/ Day 1 - Manila Departure

Meet at designated time and terminal 4 hours before standard check in time. Prepare your documents for immigration then to your designated boarding gate and prepare for your flight to Rome via emirates.

#### 17MAR/DAY 2 - OVERNIGHT STOP IN ROME

Upon arrival in Rome, after customs and immigration, proceed to meet your local representative in Rome proceed to an orientation tour in around Rome, then later on proceed to your hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### 18MAR/DAY 3 - ROME - CATANIA (SICILY)

After breakfast, free day until transfer to airport for your flight to Catania Sicily . Upon arrival at Catania airport meet your local guide and transfer to Taormina + free time in a bar, check in at hotel Dinner and overnight.

#### 19MAR/ Day 4- ETNA - TAORMINA

After breakfast, Transfer to Etna , the largest active volcano in Europe and one of the most popular destinations in Sicily. Mount Etna is known not only for its volcanic phenomena, but also for the incredible views and array of different plant species found along its slopes. A local guide will lead you through a demonstration about safety on the mountain, past and recent eruptions, and the traditions, flavors, and smells of the regional environment. You can use this knowledge as you make your way to the top and savor the incredible views of Sicily. Stop in various towns at the foot of the volcano, Stop in Zafferana Etnea + tasting of nectar afterwards take the Etna cable car + with bus ride up to 2800 meters with expert alpine guides and visit the main craters have a panoramic view of the super active South-Eastern summit crater and the Central Crater of the volcano Etna. You will have a short stop to taste the famous Etna honey + other typical local products Stop for lunch Lunch in a typical winery and farmhouse at the foot of Etna. Afterwards return to Taormina + visit of the Ancient Theater, you will have some Free time in Taormina for shopping and siteseeings. Dinner is served in one of the best pizzerias in the city, proceed back to your hotel for overnight

### 20MAR/ Day 5: CATANIA & SYRACUSE

After breakfast, today we check on our way to Syracuse, on our way first we stop to visit Catania + Duomo of Sant'Agata, Inside the vaulted interior of this cathedral, beyond its impressive marble facade sporting two orders of columns taken from the Roman amphitheatre, lie the relics of the city's patron saint, visit the fish market, via Etna we will have a tasting of the famous Catanese sweets or the Sicilian granita. Afterwards we travel to Syracuse. Stop for lunch in the historic centre of Ortigia. In the in the afternoon you will have a guided tour of Syracuse and visit Duomo of Syracuse, it is a magnificent Catholic cathedral built on the site of and incorporating the remains of an ancient Greek doric temple. It sits on the beautiful Piazza Duomo (Cathedral Square) on Ortigia Island in Syracuse. The cathedral is an important part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site listing given to the city of Syracuse for its fine architecture spanning Greek, Roman and Baroque eras. Visit the Great Neapolis, Greek Theater, Ear of Dionysius, Altar of Hieron Dinner and overnight stay at the hotel

### 21MAR/ Day 6: RAGUSA IBLA, MODICA, MARZAMEMI & NOTO

Enjoy a hearty breakfast, today we will have a long full day Ragusa Iblas, Modica , Mazamemi and Noto . First we visit Ragusa Ibla. It is said Ragusa is a city with two souls. It has a modern area and an ancient, Baroque-style area called Ibla. Ragusa has the refined elegance that characterises the late-baroque towns of the Val di Noto. It attracts visitors to its maze of narrow streets, where there are many churches and palaces to visit. All around, an ethereal beauty creates a magical atmosphere: it is almost impossible to leave, a must visit to see the Cathedral

of San Giorgio in Ragusa Ibla a marvellous ancient church dedicated to the Patron Saint of Ragusa Ibla. Afterwards Transfer to Modica is a city in southeast Sicily, it's known for its Baroque buildings, like the Cathedral of St. George. Featuring a working lab, the Chocolate Museum explores the city's history of chocolate-making. You will have a Taste of Modica's Legacy the Modica chocolate, biting into a piece of Modica chocolate is an experience in itself. You'll find a pleasant resistance at first, followed by the sugar crystals giving way to an explosion of intense cocoa flavours. After transfer to Marzamemi for lunch then on to **Noto** a city in southeastern Sicily, Italy. It's known for its baroque architecture, including the reconstructed 18th-century Noto Cathedral. Across the street is the Palazzo Ducezio, now the town hall, with the Hall of Mirrors embellished by gilding and stuccos. Nearby, the Palazzo Nicolaci has richly decorated balconies. Resembling a triumphal arch, the 19th-century Porta Reale marks the entrance to the city. Afterwards return back to Syracuse , have Dinner and overnight at the hotel

### 22MAR/ Day 7: CATANIA – PORT POZALLO -VALETTA ( MALTA ) BY FERRY

Enjoy your final breakfast of the trip, as it's time to say goodbye to Sicily. Your driver will transfer you port *Pozzallo for your ferry connection to Malta*, Arrive in Malta - Explore Valletta

Welcome to Malta! Upon arriving in port of Valletta, a private driver will transfer you to your accommodation. Take some time to settle in and rest before meeting your trip hosts for a welcome dinner. You'll receive all your necessary trip documents, as well as enjoy a traditional Mediterranean meal as you learn more about the days to come.

After dinner, you'll have free time to either relax at your hotel or enjoy some of Valletta's nightlife. You don't have to walk far in the historic city center to find trendy wine bars, cozy pubs, or live music venues.

### 23MAR/ Day 8: FULL DAY TOUR VALETTA AND 3 CITIES (walking tour around Valetta) B/L/D

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel, then head out to explore Valetta You'll start in Valletta with a private tour of the city's historic core. Your first stop will be St. John's Cathedral, which houses the famous 17th-century painting, The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist by Caravaggio. Next, head to Barraca Gardens to enjoy stone structures, photo stop at Triton fountains, Republic Square, see the Castille square, the sculptures, and views overlooking the city and its harbor. Lunch is served at Eddies. In the afternoon we cross to Birgu (Three Cities) by 'dghajsa' small bpa. The ancient maritime city that is proud of its title 'Citta Vittoriosa', is packed with history, artistic and architectural splendor. Stop at Vittoriosa City Gate for a photo opt. Walk around Birgu Old Town including the rebuilt Church of the Dominicans, the Conventual Church of St Lawrence, as well as the unique Inquisitors' Palace are all worth visiting, especially as the Oratory of St. Lawrence proudly holds the hat and sword of Jean de Vallette, the heroic Grand Master who led the Knights of St. John to victory during the Great Siege, end of the day, dinner is at Don Berto in Birgus afterwards proceed back to hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### 24MAR/ Day 9: FULL DAY TOUR MDINA & RABAT

In the morning, after breakfast, Walk around the beautiful winding streets of Mdina also known by its Italian epithets Città Vecchia and Città Notabile, is a fortified city in the Northern Region of Malta which served as the island's capital from antiquity to the medieval period today you will understand more about Maltese nobility. Visit the Mesquita Square, Bastions and Square of St Pauls Cathedral Located amongst the medieval streets in the heart of Mdina, seven miles from Valletta, St. Paul's Cathedral, or the Mdina Cathedral, is dedicated to Saint Paul, the patron saint of Malta. Tradition states that the cathedral was built on the site where the Roman governor Publius met St. Paul following the latter's shipwreck on Malta in 60 AD., see Mdina Main Gate. A short walk from Mdina is Rabat, home to some impressive catacombs and archaeological remains that conceal the great historical and cultural value of this small city and its traditions., visit Rabat Piazza and Wignacourt Museum. Lunch is at Point de Vue (Rabat). After lunch, we will have time for shopping at Ta Qali Crafts Village. Dinner is at Golden Wok (Sliema), proceed to your hotel for overnight

#### 25MAR/ Day 10: FULL DAY GOZO

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After breakfast, your private driver will accompany you to the Cirkewwa Ferry Terminal, where you'll board a 20-minute ferry to Gozo Island. The ride is quite scenic, passing by the smaller island of Comino before reaching the port in Mgarr. Upon arriving in Gozo, you'll begin a 5-hour tour throughout the island. You'll start at **Ta' Pinu**, a Roman Catholic basilica dedicated to the Blessed Virgin of Ta' Pinu. Then you'll discover what Gozo is truly known for it's clear, turquoise water and swimming holes. You'll find some of the island's best at the crescent-shaped Dwejra Bay with views of Fungus Rock, and the fjord-like Xlendi Bay, popular for swimming and diving. Here you can enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

Continue inland to the Megalithic Temples of **Ggigantija**, where you'll find two preserved, limestone temples that are some of the world's oldest monuments. Visit Qala Belveder one of the oldest villages on the island of Gozo. It is situated on the most eastern part of the island. Prehistoric remains like the Menhir is standing near the village school .The cart ruts you find near the ancient Sanctuary of the of the Immaculate Conception . The Sanctuary itself dates 1000 AD. **Meet Malta's Popeye Village** — A Film Set-Turned-Town Built as a backdrop for the 1980 cult film Popeye, starred by none other than Robin Williams this, seaside village is a quirky time capsule of a cinematic past. Then end the tour in Gozo's capital city of Victoria, where you'll visit the **old Citadella**, complete with churches, museums, and a walkway with views over the historic center. You'll have some free time to explore St. Georges Square and the city's bustling, open-air market before heading back to Valletta. Dinner is served at Ta Kolina

#### 26MAR/Day 11 : SOUTH OF MALTA AND TEMPLES

Awake early for a day trip to some of Malta's oldest history at the megalithic temples of Hagar Qim and Mnejidra. Dating back 5,500 years ago, they are the oldest free-standing stone structures in the world, even older than the Stonehenge and the Great Pyramid of Giza. Hagar Qim is set atop a soft, limestone hill on the southern edge of the island. Nearby is Mnajidra, which is on a cliffside overlooking the sea. Both archeological areas are **UNESCO World Heritage** Sites, considered some of the most ancient religious sites in the world. You'll find temples, dwelling houses, a reservoir system, and even an astronomical observation device. You will have a boat trip to blue grotto is a complex of sea caves along the Southeastern part of Malta and is a popular (must-visit!) tourist attraction. Why? Because on sunny days, the reflection of sunlight on the white sandy seafloor lights up the caves in bright blue hues, which is a true spectacle to admire!, see the Amazingly beautiful view **Dingli Cliffs** ,Blue grotto Belvedere and the picturesque fishing village of Marsaxlokks, the largest fishing harbour in Malta. Lunch is served at Carrubia, afterwards you will have time to appreciate the beauty of Marsaxlokks then later after proceed back to the mainland , dinner is served in a local restaurant then to your hotel for overnight.

#### 27MAR/ Day 12 : Valetta ( Malta ) Departure – Larnaca - Limassol ( Cyprus ) by flight B/L/D

After breakfast , free and easy until transfer back to airport for your flight to *Larnaca, Cyprus*. Upon your arrival in Charming Larnaca and meet you're your local guide . Welcome to Cyprus! and Begin your adventure in the captivating city of Larnaca. Explore the mesmerizing *Larnaca Salt Lake*, home to vibrant flamingos. Discover the rich history of the Hala Sultan Tekke on unwind on the stunning **Finikoudes Beach** and soak in the Mediterranean sun. Later in the afternoon, proceed to your hotel in Limassol for dinner and overnight.

### 28MAR/ Day 13 ; Enchanting Nicosia Exploration

After breakfast , Head to Nicosia, the capital city of Cyprus, where modernity meets tradition. Stroll through the charming streets of the *Old Town* and visit the historic Famagusta Gate. *Famagusta Gate* is the largest and most imposing of the three gates of the Venetian walls surrounding the old city of Nicosia. The city walls were designed by famous engineer Giulio Savorgano, who started its construction in 1567. After its restoration in 1981 Famagusta Gate with two large halls and a passage, become the **cultural center of Nicosia**. Since then, it

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became the core of the cultural life of the capital and Cyprus. The place is used for lectures, conferences, screenings, exhibitions, concerts, theatrical plays and Folk Art exhibitions. Explore the *Cyprus Museum*, showcasing the island's fascinating archaeological heritage. Don't miss the chance to walk along the Green Line, dividing the city into two parts. Lunch is enroute, later in the afternoon, proceed to dinner then to your hotel.

**29MAR/ Day 14 : Breathtaking Paphos Wonders and Petra Tou Romiou B/L/D** After breakfast , Journey to the enchanting city of Paphos, known for its mythical history. Paphos has been inhabited since the Neolithic period. It was a centre of the cult of Aphrodite and of pre-Hellenic fertility deities. Aphrodite's legendary birthplace was on this island, where her temple was erected by the Myceneans in the 12th century B.C. The remains of villas, palaces, theatres, fortresses and tombs mean that the site is of exceptional architectural and historic value. The mosaics of Nea Paphos are among the most beautiful in the world. Explore the UNESCO-listed Tombs of the Kings, an ancient burial site with intriguing architecture Visit the fascinating Paphos Archaeological Park, housing ancient Roman villas with stunning mosaics.

Conclude the day at the awe-inspiring Petra tou Romiou, the legendary birthplace of Aphrodite. According to the legend, the Ancient Greek Goddess of Love and Beauty - Aphrodite - was born of the sea foam here. Legend tells that she rose from the waves and was escorted on a shell to this particular beach. The giant rock formations, which are seen at the same location are linked with another - more recent - legend which tells that the Byzantine hero Digenis Akritas heaved them there to keep the Saracens Arabs (7th-10th centuries) at bay. The name of Petra tou Romiou ('rock of the Greek' in Greek) comes from the hero. It is said that in certain weather conditions, the waves rise, break and form a column of water that dissolves into a pillar of foam. With imagination, this momentarily looks like an ephemeral, evanescent human shape. Other popular myths tell that swimming around the rock three times will bring various blessings, including eternal youth and beauty, good luck, fertility and true love.

### 30MAR/ Day 15: Delightful Limassol Experience

After breakfast we drive to Limassol and dive into its lively atmosphere and beautiful coastline. Discover the medieval Limassol Castle, steeped in stories of Richard the Lionheart. The Medieval Castle of Limassol is built just above the old harbor of the city. According to tradition, in this Castle, Richard the Lionheart married Berengaria of Navarre. Wander around the picturesque Limassol Marina, a perfect spot for a leisurely stroll.

Enjoy some free time for shopping, souvenirs, and last-minute exploration. A Farewell dinner is prepared with local performers to conclude whole experience for this trip. Good night, Cyprus!

### 31MAR/ Day 16 : Larnaca- Departure

After breakfast , free time until transfer back to airport . Bid farewell to Cyprus with cherished memories and depart for your onward journey.

01	AF	PR/	Day	17	: Arriva	al Manila.	

Arrive Manila . Home sweet home

### Package Cost (Minimum 15 Paying:

## USD 5,140.00

Inflight Meals

B/L/D

# PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- ✓ Roundtrip Airline Ticket via Emirates Airways
- ✓ Ferry Ticket Sicily Valetta )
- ✓ Accommodation at 4-5 stars PREMIUM on BB
- ✓ Hotel Porterage
- ✓ Meals on Full Board except during flight connection
- ✓ Services on High End Coaches
- ✓ Services of a Licensed English-Speaking Guides in Each Country
- $\checkmark$  Tours and Entrances as stipulated in the program
- ✓ Water allocation of 1L per day per person

- ✓ Travel Insurance
- ✓ Travel kit and Pre departure Briefing

### NOT INCLUDED:

- Airline Taxes (USD125.00)
- Interior Flight (Rome Catania/ Valetta Larnaca) (USD117.00)
  WITH 23KLS LUGGAGE X 1 PC
- Tipping for Guides /Drivers/ Hotels (USD160.00)
- Cost of Passport and Visas (PHP.13,500.00)
- Add : SGL SUPP : USD1,100.00 BC SUPP : TBA
- o Others Not mentioned in the Itinerary.

### Flight Details ;

EK 335 16MAR MNLDXB 2330 0445 17MAR EK 97 17MAR DXBFCO 0855 1240 EK 110 27MAR 4 MLALCA 1445 1805 EK 110 31MAR LCADXB 2010 0105 01APR EK 334 01APR 2 DXBMNL 0935 2210 INTERIOR AZ1731L 18MAR 2 FCOCTA 0935 1055

### REQUIREMENTS

- 1. Passport valid 6 months prior to expiry
- 2. Passport size picture white background
- 3. VISA entry to: SCHENGEN
- 4. Filled up Passenger information Sheet

# VISA REQUIREMENTS ; Please refer to TLC Travel

## **BOOKING & PAYMENT CONDITIONS**

- 1. A non-refundable deposit (if visa is granted) of **\$500.00** is required upon submission of documents.
- 2. Fifty percent of tour cost is required on **September 5, 2024** in payment for Airline Ticket which is due for issuance on the said date and
- 3. FULL PAYMENT should be on October 5, 2024
- CANCELLATION FEE: 50% of tour cost if cancelled within 3 weeks before the departure.

**RATES, TOUR PROGRAMS & SCHEDULES** are subject to change if conditions so demand. TLC Travel and Tours, reserves the right to postpone the departure if participants fall below the time. Tour fare is based on group departure therefore, non-endorsable, non re routable, with refunds, if any, is subject to cancellation and charges.



SICILY · MALTA · CYPRUS The Best of MEDITERRANEAN Islands TLC TRAVEL | SOUTHERN EUROPE 2025