

Reed College Alumni Relations presents...

Old World Sicily & Malta

May 18 – 29, 2026



**REED
COLLEGE**

For more information contact
Collette

1-800-581-8942

Refer to booking #1321326

collette



Join Nigel Nicholson



Small Group Travel rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

Nigel Nicholson



Nigel Nicholson is the Walter Mintz Professor of Greek, Latin, and Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Humanities. He has been at Reed since 1995, and received his B.A. from Oxford University and his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He teaches Greek and Latin language, literature and culture classes, as well as Hum 110, the first-year Humanities class on the Ancient

Mediterranean, Mexico and the Harlem Renaissance. His research focuses on Greek athletics and politics, lyric poetry, elite display, medicine, and Sicily and southern Italy. He is the author of three books: *Aristocracy and Athletics in Archaic and Classical Greece* (Cambridge University Press, 2005); *The Poetics of Victory in the Greek West: Epinician, Oral Tradition and the Deinomenid Empire* (Oxford University Press, 2015); and, jointly with Dr. Nathan Selden of Oregon Health and Sciences University, *The Rhetoric of Medicine: Contemporary Lessons from Ancient Greece* (Oxford University Press, 2019). He also edited a special issue of the "Paedagogus" section of *Classical World* 108 (2015) on teaching literary theory to graduates and undergraduates in Classics. He is currently working on two more books for Oxford University Press, one a study of Greek athletics through the statues and poetry used to commemorate victors, and one a volume on Sicily from the Paleolithic period to the Middle Ages, edited jointly with colleagues from the University of British Columbia and the University of Rome Tor Vergata. He was named Oregon Professor of the Year in 2005 and served for seven years as Reed's Dean of the Faculty, 2013-2020.

12 Days • 15 Meals: 10 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Malta, Grand Harbour Cruise, Valletta, Impact Moment, Ferry to Sicily, Aromatic Herb Farm Tour, Ragusa-Ibla, Siracusa, Choice on Tour: Ancient Siracusa Archeological Site or Ancient Siracusa Archeological Museum, Taormina's Greek Theatre, Mount Etna Off-Road Excursion

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

Day 1 Overnight Flight
Days 2 – 5 Land's End Boutique Hotel, Tas-Sliema
Days 6 – 8 San Giorgio Palace Hotel, Ragusa
Days 9 – 11 Excelsior Palace Hotel Taormina, Taormina
On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Monday, May 18, 2026 Overnight Flight You're on your way to Malta and Sicily – legendary isles nestled amongst the deep blue waves of the Mediterranean. Discover how ancient traditions blend into modern society as you travel along timeless Italian and Maltese towns.

Day 2: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 Sliema, Malta Start your journey with a 4-night stay in Sliema, a welcoming Maltese resort town with a lively waterfront promenade. Stretch your legs and take in views of Marsamxett Harbour and Manoel Island. Uncover Malta's deeply rooted heritage, teeming with mysterious prehistoric temples and Renaissance architectural masterpieces. This evening, get to know your fellow travelers over a welcome dinner. (D)

Day 3: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 Sliema - Valletta - Sliema Begin your adventure with a panoramic sailing of Valletta's (UNESCO) Grand Harbour aboard traditional *Dghajsa* boats* before exploring the Maltese capital during a walking tour led by a local expert. View the skyline of the Three Cities from the Upper Barrakka Gardens and take in the elegant profile of the Grand Master's Palace. Then, enjoy some time to explore on your own. This afternoon, visit the private home of a modern-day Knight of Malta before hopping on the local ferry* back to Sliema for an evening at leisure. (B)

Day 4: Thursday, May 21, 2026 Sliema The entire day is yours. With free time, you might choose to relax in Sliema or venture back to Valletta for a visit to Caravaggio's masterpiece housed in Saint John's Co-Cathedral. Or join an optional full day exploration of the Isle of Gozo,* the second largest island of the Maltese archipelago and home to the Ggantija temple complex (UNESCO), which is older than Stonehenge. (B)

Day 5: Friday, May 22, 2026 Sliema - Maltese Village Experience Enjoy a morning at leisure. Perhaps you'll join a half-day optional tour to Mdina – the "Silent City" and Malta's ancient capital. This afternoon, immerse yourself in Maltese traditions as you board a retro bus for a village where daily life and customs remain unchanged. Experience an **Impact Moment** as you are hosted for dinner at a local band club. Band clubs have a special place in the community. A source of intense pride and with a solid place in Maltese social culture, the band club's premises are an ideal meeting point for locals to exchange gossip, play a game of pool or engage in village *fešta* activities. (B, D)

Day 6: Saturday, May 23, 2026 Sliema - Ferry to Sicily - Ragusa Countryside, Italy Early this morning, grab your bags** and hop on a ferry*** to Sicily. Pause in the seaside town of Pozzallo for a Sicilian breakfast. As in most of Italy, breakfast in Sicily is a simple but tasty affair, traditionally consisting of a pastry and *cappuccino*. Continue your culinary exploration of the Sicilian countryside with a visit to a family-owned herb farm to learn about their production of organic



Per Person Rates*:

Double \$6,399; Single \$7,299; Triple \$6,349

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Portland Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

****Please call for air rates from other gateways!**

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

aromatic plants. Then, during lunch, enjoy dishes enlivened with herbs grown on the farm. A delightful way to experience the region's unique and delicious flavors. This afternoon, settle into your hotel for a leisurely 3-night stay in the Ragusa countryside. (B, L, D)

Day 7: Sunday, May 24, 2026 Ragusa Countryside - Ragusa-Ibla - Ragusa Countryside Make your way to Ragusa-Ibla (UNESCO), a time-worn city perched upon a hill. Meander through its late-Baroque neighborhood with an expert guide, passing by winding lanes, cobblestone streets, and wrought iron balconies. Make the most of a free afternoon to explore on your own. As the sun sets, retreat to your countryside resort just outside the city or linger in town for a dinner on your own. (B)

Day 8: Monday, May 25, 2026 Ragusa Countryside The day is yours to do as you please. With free time, you might choose to relax in the countryside and enjoy the resort's amenities. Or, perhaps you will join an optional tour to the picture-perfect towns of Scicli and Modica (UNESCO), where you'll enjoy a savory brunch featuring fresh ricotta at a countryside restaurant before venturing to an Aztec chocolate shop for some sweet samples. (B)

Day 9: Tuesday, May 26, 2026 Ragusa Countryside - Siracusa - Taormina Take in the rugged landscape of southeastern Sicily en route to Siracusa (UNESCO). Then, **it's your**

choice! Discover the expansive Neapolis, the ancient Greek colony established 27 centuries ago **-OR-** explore the fascinating streets of Ortigia and find out more about local culture and traditions in the company of a local expert. This afternoon, relax during a bus transfer to Taormina, a charming resort town perched high above the Mediterranean Sea. (B)

Day 10: Wednesday, May 27, 2026 Taormina Discover Taormina with a local guide, leading you to the city's Duomo, public gardens, and the well-preserved Greek theater. Walk in the footsteps of ancient attendees and take in an unparalleled viewpoint of the adjacent ocean. Spend the free afternoon on your own. Perhaps you'll grab a bite to eat at a sidewalk café, or peruse the local boutiques for handcrafted souvenirs. (B)

Day 11: Thursday, May 28, 2026 Taormina - Mount Etna - Taormina See Sicily's wilder side on an off-road adventure to Mount Etna (UNESCO). Stare up at the iconic peak as your vehicle climbs along the sides of Europe's largest active volcano. Spend the day exploring this legendary giant, passing by lava formations and basalt rocks. Back in Taormina, gather with your fellow travelers as you recount memories of the Mediterranean islands accompanied by Sicilian food at dinner, surrounded by local musicians. (B, D)

Day 12: Friday, May 29, 2026 Taormina - Tour Ends Say goodbye to Sicily and the Mediterranean as your tour comes to a close today. (B)

Experience It! Malta

Malta may be small in size – but that's where its minuteness stops. Malta is south of Sicily, but is only 1% of the size of the well-known Italian island. Despite its initial appearance, the country is actually made up of a set of islands, all close together. This coastal paradise preserves endless layers of history – Malta once served as the home of Neolithic farmers, it holds age-old foundations from the Middle Ages, it served as the battleground for key fights of the Knights of Malta, and the island also played a strategic role for the Allies in WWII as a base. Malta has been inhabited since 5,000 BC, and this dynamic history is woven into its modern culture. Today, you can explore this intriguing past as well as soak up the sunshine on this relaxing Mediterranean getaway.

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1321326>



Important Tour Information:

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Agility is required to board the local boats and ferries used in Malta as well as boarding the off-road vehicles used for the Mount Etna excursion.

****Travelers are responsible for handling their own luggage when getting on and off the ferry to Sicily.** The distance you need to cover carrying your luggage may range between 100 and 200 yards, and there are no luggage trolleys available in the ports.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

You should expect large crowds in Valletta and Taormina. Both visits require the ability to walk a minimum of 1.5 miles over cobblestoned streets with steep inclines and stairs with no handrails. The cities of Mdina, Ragusa, Modica, Scicli, and Siracusa present similar conditions.

The Mount Etna excursion includes an ascent to 6500 feet/2000 meters above sea level.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour.

Most shops and businesses in Malta and Italy are closed on Sundays and on observances of national, local, or religious holidays.

*****Depending on the ferry schedule to Sicily, you may depart your hotel as early as 4:00 a.m.** Due to the early departure time, breakfast will not be available at the hotel this morning. A cafeteria is available aboard the ferry. Upon arrival in Sicily you will stop for a continental breakfast at a local cafe. In the case of adverse sea conditions, the ferry to Sicily may be delayed or cancelled resulting in partial reduction of your time on the island. In case of this event, there will be a replacement accommodation arranged and a comparable program on Malta.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

***Traditional Dghajsa boats are small, each one seating approximately 5-7 people.** Sailing is weather dependent and may be postponed or cancelled in case of adverse weather or sea conditions. Local ferries to Sliema and Gozo are also weather and sea dependent and may be cancelled or postponed as required. The isle of Gozo can only be reached by ferry which may result in a day swap or a cancellation of the optional tour.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Our return transfers will depart from Taormina to Catania airport.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Our air travelers will depart from Catania airport.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

Travel Requirements:

IDENTIFICATION

Passports are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require that your passport be valid at least 6 months beyond the dates of your travel. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

Effective for travel in May 2025, all visitors who do not need a visa to enter Europe will be expected to apply for an ETIAS visa waiver, for a fee, when visiting a Schengen Area Country. To identify Schengen Area Countries and to complete the ETIAS application, please visit <https://www.etiasvisa.com/>

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of October 12, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by February 17, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until October 19, 2025.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

**For important reservation information visit
<https://gatewaygocollette.com/link/1321326>.
 You can also find this information on your tour documents.**

BOOKING NUMBER: 1321326
DEPARTURE DATE: May 18, 2026

TOUR: Old World Sicily & Malta
GROUP NAME: Reed College Alumni Relations

Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

Sicily

Sicily's Baroque Valley: Scicli & Modica with lunch

\$125 USD

Journey to Sicily's Baroque Valley, known for its ornate historic architecture. Discover UNESCO World Heritage sites in Scicli and Modica. The town of Scicli dates back to the 3rd century BC, home to a number of centuries-old churches. Visit a local farm for brunch to learn about two local specialties: ricotta cheese and sausage. The hilly city of Modica, dating back to the 2nd century BC, is renowned for its baroque architecture and breathtakingly detailed facades. Taste Modica's historically rooted artisanal chocolate, based on flavorful Aztec recipes of millennia ago. This tour will immerse you in the alluring culture and history of the Baroque Valley. *Duration: Approximately 8 hours.* Please note a minimum of 8 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Malta

A Day in Gozo Island

\$139 USD

Embark on a full-day exploration of the isle of Gozo, the second largest island of the Maltese archipelago. A short ferry ride takes you to across to Malta's greener neighbor, home to the Ggantija temple complex (UNESCO), which is older than Stonehenge. Uncover this UNESCO site with a local expert and learn about Gozo's 7,000 years of history. Pause for lunch at a local restaurant before enjoying a panoramic drive highlighting the many captivating legends of Gozo. Discover for yourself why the great epic poet Homer identified Gozo as the home of the nymph Calypso who kept Ulysses captive here for seven years. This option must be booked at least 30 days prior to departure. The ferry boat ride is 20-25 minutes each way and is dependent on weather and sea conditions. *Duration: Approximately 9 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

Mdina, the Silent City

\$65 USD

Spend your morning in Mdina, the Silent City. Your tour begins with an exploration of the site that is traditionally identified with Saint Paul's Grotto, where legend holds that this is where Paul the Apostle stayed when he arrived on the island in 60 CE. Then, set off on foot through the narrow, winding streets of Mdina for an intimate look at Malta's ancient capital, absconded in the countryside and protected for centuries before the arrival of the Knights of Malta. St. Paul's Grotto can only be reached via a steep staircase and may be unsuitable for travelers with claustrophobia. *Duration: Approximately 4 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is included.

For Internal Use Only

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YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) **as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.**

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

Nickname: _____ Gender: () Male () Female Date of Birth: month _____ day _____ year _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Cell: () _____ Email Address: _____

Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you): _____ Phone: () _____

ROOMING WITH: ☐ Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

AIR GATEWAY: Departure airport for this tour: _____

Air Seat Request: () Aisle () Window () Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times. Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

TRAVEL PROTECTION: () Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$549 () No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour hotels

Please Choose One: *(subject to availability)*

() Land's End Boutique – Standard (included)

() Land's End Boutique – Standard Sea View (additional charge of \$340.00 double, \$680.00 single required)

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Collette



TOUR: Old World Sicily & Malta

GROUP NAME: Reed College Alumni Relations

DEPARTURE DATE: May 18, 2026

BOOKING NUMBER: 1321326

AVAILABLE PREPAID OPTIONS

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change. Children under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

PASSENGERS NAME: (Please submit a separate form for each passenger)

Salutation: _____ First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____ Nickname: _____
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print **EXACTLY** as it appears on Passport) (Jr., Sr.)

✓	Option	Price Per Person (USD)
	Sicily's Baroque Valley:Scicli & Modica with lunch	125.00
	A Day in Gozo Island <i>This option must be booked at least 30 days prior to departure. The ferry boat ride is 20-25 minutes each way and is dependent on weather and sea conditions.</i>	139.00
	Mdina, the Silent City <i>St. Paul's Grotto can only be reached via a steep staircase and may be unsuitable for travelers with claustrophobia.</i>	65.00



Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email: TravelOperations@collette.com

Fax: 401.727.4745

Mail: Collette: Travel Operations

180 Middle Street

Pawtucket, RI 02860

TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time the reservation is made.

*Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

****To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.***

Reservation # _____

Name: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Are you traveling with a wheelchair? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No

- Are you capable of lifting your own wheelchair? Yes No

If you are not capable of lifting your own wheelchair who will provide assistance?

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your wheelchair:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Are you traveling with a walker? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your walker collapse? Yes No

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your walker:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

*Tour Managers and drivers do not provide assistance lifting, pushing or carrying wheelchairs or walkers.
Motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.*

Are you requesting any hotel room accommodations? Yes No

If "YES" Please indicate if one or more of the following is required in the washroom.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----|----|
| • Walk-in shower | Yes | No |
| • Grab bars | Yes | No |
| • Raised toilet seat | Yes | No |

Please provide any details in reference to the nature of your request.

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

Do you understand and accept? Yes No

Collette cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

Are you traveling with an oxygen tank? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane.
Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers' requests. Collette will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants, but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations.

Collette also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining, or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Internal Use Only

Reason: _____

Tour: _____ Reservation # _____

TS/Group: _____

Tour Date: _____