



# Tour of Sicily Catania - Taormina - 10 Days (#19003)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **08-07-2025** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

# **Overview**

Regular departures every Saturday.

### **Trip Highlights**

Catania-Syracuse-Noto-Ragusa-Agrigento-Palermo-Catania-Taormina

# **Detailed Itinerary**

Day 01

Day 1 - Saturday: CATANIA (hotel in Catania)

Individual arrival to your hotel in Catania (optional private transfer on request). Dinner on your own and overnight in hotel.





Meal: No Meal

**Day 02** 

#### Day 2 - Sunday: SYRACUSE - NOTO (hotel in Ragusa)

Breakfast in hotel and departure for Syracuse, a city declared World Heritage by UNESCO. The visit will start with the Archaeological Park of Neapolis, an area that contains extraordinary testimonies of the Greek and Roman civilizations. Here you will admire the majestic Greek Theatre, one of the largest and best preserved in the ancient world. The tour continues with the Roman Amphitheatre, the Latomies of Paradise and the Ear of Dionysus. The day goes on to the fascinating Ortigia, the island that constitutes the historic centre of Syracuse. Here, every corner tells centuries of history, with its picturesque streets and elegant monuments. You will admire the Cathedral, an architectural masterpiece that stands on the ruins of an ancient Greek temple, representing a perfect blend of different eras and styles. The walk continues to the Arethusa's Fountain, a freshwater spring surrounded by papyrus. Free lunch. In the afternoon, depart for Noto, a city renowned for its architectural masterpieces of the eighteenth century, representative of the Sicilian baroque style. You will be enchanted by the beauty of the churches and palaces. Free time to explore the city. Transfer to Ragusa for dinner and overnight in hotel.

**Day 03** 

# Day 3 – Monday: RAGUSA IBLA – MODICA – PIAZZA ARMERINA (Hotel in Agrigento)

After breakfast in hotel, visit of the beautiful Ragusa Ibla and its Sicilian Baroque. It houses more than fifty churches and numerous baroque palaces. The city, famous for being the set of the television series Commissario Montalbano, is one of the 44 Italian sites that UNESCO has declared a World Heritage Site. Departure towards Modica, another pearl of the Sicilian baroque. The first stop will be the tasting at Sabadì, internationally renowned for its unique chocolate, I.G.P. certified and Slow Food praesidium. Following, light lunch to the Orti di San Giorgio, a splendid complex consisting of seven hanging gardens, that wind along the stairs of the Church of San Giorgio. Immersed in a frame of light and beauty, you can enjoy a moment of tranquillity and refreshment. In the afternoon, depart for Piazza Armerina, where you will visit the Villa Romana del Casale, one of the most important and best-preserved examples of a Roman villa in the world. The splendid mosaics that decorate its floors are a real wonder and tell scenes of everyday life, mythology and nature with vivacity and surprising detail. Transfer to Agrigento for dinner and overnight in hotel.

**Day 04** 

Day 4 - Tuesday: AGRIGENTO - MARSALA- SALT ROAD - (hotel in Palermo)



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The day starts with a visit of the extraordinary Valley of the Temples, one of the most extensive and best-preserved archaeological sites of Sicily. You will admire the timeless charm of the ruins of the ancient city of Akragas. You will be fascinated by the Temple of Juno, a majestic example of Doric architecture overlooking the hill and the Temple of Concord, which is one of the best-preserved Greek temples in the world. Finally, the Temple of Hercules, one of the oldest in the valley. Proceeding on and departure towards Marsala, a city rich in history and enological tradition. Known for the landing of Garibaldi in 1860, The city is rich in noble palaces, monuments and imposing churches in baroque style. After a walk through the streets of Marsala, the tour continues with an exclusive visit of the historic Florio Cellars. In this suggestive tour, you will explore the giant vats of the 800s, still used to refine the famous Marsala wine. Light lunch accompanied by wines produced by the company. Then, you will walk along the Salt Road, a scenic road that leads us through breathtaking landscapes, among windmills. You will admire the Stagnone Islands and salt pans, among the oldest in the world, and observe the natural beauty of the salt pans, where salt is still gathered using traditional ways. Transfer to Palermo, accommodation in hotel, free dinner and overnight.

**Day 05** 

#### Day 5 - Wednesday: MONREALE - PALERMO (hotel in Palermo)

Breakfast and visit of Monreale, home to one of the greatest masterpieces of Arab-Norman art: the Cathedral of Monreale, defined as the eighth wonder of the world. Next to it, you will visit the Cloister, renowned for its decorated columns and precious stone inlays. The tour continues to Palermo, a city at the foot of Monte Pellegrino. Palermo is a real treasure trove of Arab-Norman treasures. The visit begins with the Cathedral, whose beauty and complexity will leave you speechless. You will continue with the Martorana Church, famous for its Byzantine mosaics, and the Cappella Palatina, located inside the Normans Palace. Lunch break to enjoy local products. Proceeding on with a walk in the historic centre of Palermo, admiring the Teatro Massimo, one of the largest opera houses in Europe, and the fountain in Pretoria Square, one of the most beautiful and scenic fountains in Palermo. The day ends with a free dinner and overnight in hotel.

**Day 06** 

# Day 6 - Thursday: CEFALÙ- CATANIA (hotel in Catania)

After breakfast in hotel, depart for Cefalu, an enchanting seaside village overlooking the Mediterranean Sea. You will visit the Norman Cathedral, an architectural jewel with its Byzantine mosaics. Free time to walk through the streets of Cefalu. For those who wish, visit the Mandralisca Museum. The day goes on to the charming Catania, a city rich in history and culture, located at the foot of Etna. Here, you will explore the historic centre, declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The city is unique for its late-baroque architecture characterized by the dark colour of the lava stone. The first stop is Duomo Square, the beating heart of Catania. Here you will admire the Cathedral of Sant'Agata, an imposing baroque structure dedicated to

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the patron saint of the city. In the centre of the square, you will find the iconic Lavica Stone Elephant, a symbol of Catania. The visit continues to University Square, surrounded by elegant historical buildings, and walk along Via Dei Crociferi, one of the most beautiful streets in the city, famous for its baroque churches and monasteries, such as the famous S. Benedict Monastery, a monastic complex of extraordinary beauty. Break in a historic bar to enjoy the traditional "granita & brioche". Dinner on your own and overnight in hotel.

**Day 07** 

#### Day 7 - Friday: ETNA - TAORMINA (hotel in Taormina)

The day begins with breakfast in hotel. The first stop is the "pescheria", the famous fish market of Catania, immersed in an authentic atmosphere that characterizes this place. Departure for Mount Etna, the highest active volcano in Europe and one of the most fascinating in the world. The Etna Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offers an extraordinary landscape made of lava flows, craters and rich biodiversity. You will reach the Rifugio Sapienza, in which there will be the first breathtaking views of Mount Etna. From here, you will explore the "Crateri Silvestri", inactive cones with a suggestive landscape. At the end of the visit, you will have a delicious tasting of artisanal honey and other local products. The tour continues in Taormina, one of the most fascinating destinations in Sicily. Lunch stop in a restaurant in the historic centre. Next, visit the Greco-Roman Theatre, which offers a spectacular view of the Gulf of Naxos and a tangible testimony to the rich cultural history of the region. Free time is available to explore Taormina or to go shopping in the local boutiques and craft shops. Back to the hotel for dinner and overnight.

**Day 08** 

#### Day 8 - Saturday: CASTELMOLA-SAVOCA (Hotel in Taormina)

After breakfast, departure for Castelmola, near Taormina, with a wonderful landscape over the Ionian Sea. It is a small village characterized by narrow medieval alleys, little squares and ancient churches, officially recognized as one of the most beautiful villages in Italy. You will visit the highest point, having a nice walk from the main square, Piazza Sant'Antonio, decorated with an extraordinary mosaic in local white stone and lava stone, up to the ruins of the Castello di Mola, of Greek Byzantine origin. Proceeding on, the excursion will continue to Savoca, also one of the most beautiful villages in Italy and located over a rocky hill. Savoca treasures vestiges of Medieval, Renaissance and Baroque origins in its territory. You will visit the famous open-air set of the famous movie "The Godfather" by Francis Ford Coppola, walking through the delightful alleys and lingering in front of the famous "Vitelli" bar. You could imagine yourself as being in one of the most famous scenes of the film, when the character played by Al Pacino meets the father of the future bride and asks Apollonia's hand. Continuing you will reach the church of Santa Lucia, chosen to shoot the wedding scene. Return to Taormina and free afternoon. Dinner and overnight at the hotel.



**Day 09** 

#### Day 9 - Sunday: TAORMINA (Hotel in Taormina)

After breakfast, free day in Taormina, defined by Goethe as the "paradise on earth". You can enjoy the Medieval village visiting its historical monuments or doing shopping buying some of the local handicraft products. As an alternative you can relax by the sea and enjoy the colours and scents of its Mediterranean vegetation... We suggest visiting Isola Bella, one of the most enchanting beaches in Sicily, also called the "Pearl of the Mediterranean" thanks to its location and vegetation: a perfect mix of tropical plants and local flora! Dinner and overnight in hotel.

**Day 10** 

#### Day 10 - Monday: TAORMINA

Breakfast in hotel and end of services. Goodbye Sicily!

#### **Inclusions**

Multilingual Tour leader and professional travel guide\* (English, Italian or Spanish) for the whole tour (from the 2nd day to the evening of the 9th day), local guides or audio-guides where necessary

- Deluxe bus form day 2 to day 9
- Whisper kit Crystal Sound for the whole trip: the latest generation, fast and light. It transmits the driving voice up to 150 meters away.
- Accommodation in charming 4 stars hotels mostly located in the city centre, international breakfast included:

Catania city centre: Il Principe Hotel 4\* / Romano House Hotel 4\* or similar.

Ragusa city centre: Mediterraneo Palace Hotel 4\* or similar.

Agrigento: Baia di Ulisse Wellness & SPA 4\* or similar.

Palermo city centre: Mercure Palermo Centro 4\* / Ibis Styles Palermo Cristal 4\* or similar.

Taormina: Hotel Villa Diodoro 4\* / Hotel Caparena Wellness & SPA 4\* or similar.

- 9 international breakfast, 5 lunches in exclusive restaurants and 5 dinners in hotels to have a taste of Sicilian traditional cuisine.
- Visit of the main suggestive UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Siracusa, Noto, Ragusa, Modica, Piazza Armerina, Agrigento, Monreale, Palermo, Cefalù, Catania centro storico, Etna.
- Tasting of Sicilian typical products:

Modica (day 3): visit of the well-known chocolate manufacturers Sabadì with tasting;

Marsala (day 4): visit of the famous Florio wine cellar and wine tasting;





Catania (day 6): tasting of Sicilian "granita & brioche";

Etna (day 7) visit of a beekeeping honey company and honey tasting

\*Monolingual departures during high season.

#### **Exclusions**

- Transfers in/out
- Meals not included by the program
- Beverages with meals
- Entrance fees at monuments/museums
- City taxes (where compulsory)
- Anything not specified under "The rate includes"

#### Note

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Agrigento: Baia di Ulisse Wellness & SPA 4\* or similar.

Palermo city centre: Mercure Palermo Centro 4\* / Ibis Styles Palermo Cristal 4\* or similar.

Taormina: Hotel Villa Diodoro 4\* / Hotel Caparena Wellness & SPA 4\* or similar.

Supplement for Pre-night in hotel in Catania (On Bed and Breakfast Basis) available on request.

Supplement for Post-night Taormina on request.

Transfers Catania airport/hotel in Catania available on request.

- Transfer Hotel in Taormina / Catania airport available on request.
- Assistance Medical Expense Reimbursement Luggage insurance Travel Cancellation Expenses Insurance: on request.

Arrival day: on request, it is possible to arrange optional Half Day private excursions to Acireale or Caltagirone

For organizational reasons or due to force majeure the itinerary may be modified.

# **Program Touring / Guide**





# **Fixed Departure**

05 Jul, 2025

4 Star

AUD 4,013 P P twin share AUD 4,844 P P single AVAILABLE 12 Jul, 2025

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18 Oct, 2025

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08 Nov, 2025 4 Star AUD 4,013 P P twin share AUD 4,844 P P single AVAILABLE 15 Nov, 2025 4 Star AUD 4,013 P P twin share AUD 4,844 P P single AVAILABLE

