



## Tour of Sicily from Catania Special New Year's Eve - 6 Days (#19894)

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **08-09-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### Overview

GUARANTEED DEPARTURE ON 27 DECEMBER 2024.

A magical journey to celebrate New Year's Eve.

Organized group itinerary with stays in 4\* hotels to discover the most significant places on the island.

### Trip Highlights

Catania-Agrigento-Palermo-Catania

### Detailed Itinerary



### Day 01

#### DAY 1 - FRIDAY 12/27 : CATANIA

Individual arrival to your hotel in Catania (optional private transfer on request).

Dinner on your own and overnight in hotel.

**Meal:** Dinner

### Day 02

#### DAY 2 - SATURDAY 12/28: SIRACUSA - NOTO

After breakfast in hotel departure to Syracuse to visit the most beautiful and greatest Greek colony in Sicily and World Heritage Site! The visit will start with the Archaeological Park of Neapolis, with its Greek Theatre, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Latomie of Paradise and the Ear of Dionysius. Proceeding on and visit of the splendid Ortigia, a small island which is the historical centre of Syracuse. In Ortigia you will admire the beautiful Cathedral which dominates the square with its authoritative presence. The façade is a powerful Sicilian-Baroque composition, but it gives no hint that this building was once a Doric temple! From Piazza Duomo you will reach a wide terrace on the waterfront surrounding the famous Arethusa's Fountain, one of the most famous fresh-water sources of the Greek world. Lunch in a typical restaurant. Departure to Noto, the capital of Sicilian Baroque, famous for its fine buildings of the early eighteenth century and declared UNESCO World Heritage Site. Inspired by Baroque ideals of "open city", Noto is a rare masterpiece and the clearest example of theatrical tastes in 18th century architecture whose local limestone has been burnt gold by the sun. Noto's Baroque is a game of elegant curves, floral weaves, perspective views, palaces and gardens, capitals and ornaments that adorn the facades of churches and monasteries. Free time for a walk along the town. Transfer to Catania for free dinner and overnight in hotel.

### Day 03

#### DAY 3 - SUNDAY 12/29 : PIAZZA ARMERINA - CALTAGIRONE

After breakfast in hotel departure to Piazza Armerina to visit the famous Villa Romana del Casale, UNESCO World Heritage Site, to admire the splendid polychrome mosaics! This majestic villa, belonged to a member of the Roman Senatorial aristocracy, hosts prestigious mosaics representing mythological and historical episodes and scenes of hunting and entertainments: you will love it! After a delicious lunch in a local farmhouse the tour continues towards Caltagirone. This lovely town is known for its colourful ceramics as well as for its nativity scenes. It is also known in fact as the "City of Cribs" since during Christmas the streets of the old town are animated by beautiful figurines and handmade artistic cribs.



Among the many ancient and modern statues housed in churches, museums and public squares, you will admire the largest crib in Italy. It has over 300 animated characters in pottery dressed in traditional fabric clothes: mountains, water streams and ancient houses, all in human size and in motion. Furthermore, the historic city centre houses the typical Christmas markets selling local food and wine and pottery which will make you experience the magical atmosphere of Christmas! Transfer to the hotel in Agrigento, dinner and overnight.

### Day 04

#### DAY 4 - MONDAY 12/30: AGRIGENTO - MARSALA - SALTY ROAD

This morning the tour continues in Agrigento visiting the famous Valley of the Temples stated World Heritage Site. As one of the most prosperous of the ancient Greek cities on the island, Agrigento presents a remarkable series of Doric Temples of the 5th century. Among hundreds of almond trees, you will admire the rests of the ancient Ak ragas. You will see the "Temple of Hera", the "Temple of Concordia" and the "Temple of Heracles". Proceeding on, visit of the charming and well-known town of Marsala, where Garibaldi went ashore in May 1860. You will walk through the streets of the centre where you overlook ancient noble palaces, monuments and impressive baroque churches. After that, exclusive guided tour inside the historic Florio Cellars. The visit starts in front of the majestic giant vats, built at the end of the 19th century and still used for the refinement of Marsala wine, and it continues inside the 3 fascinating barrel chambers. After a thirty minute tour through the barrel vaults you will reach the avant-garde tasting rooms named Donna Franca and Duca Enrico. You will enjoy a delicious light lunch and a memorable wine tasting experience! The tour will continue visiting the popular Salt Road: here the salt marshes have given rise to one of the oldest salt-extracting industries in the world! Between Trapani and Marsala, the Salt Road is now protected for its interesting birdlife, and also as an important site of industrial archaeology. Transfer to Palermo, accommodation in hotel, free dinner and overnight.

### Day 05

#### DAY 5 - TUESDAY 12/31: MONREALE - PALERMO

After breakfast in hotel, the morning will be spent visiting Monreale, its huge Norman Cathedral, proclaimed the Eighth Wonder of the World, and its splendid Cloister in Arab Norman style: admirable masterpiece of art, sculpture, and semi-precious stones marquetry! Later you will discover the stunning Palermo, one of the richest towns in the island for its history and art. Palermo stands on a bay dominated by Mount Pellegrino. While the Baroque predominates, there is a profusion of different architectural styles reflecting the city's multicultural past. Visit of the wonderful eclectic Cathedral, the astonishing Martorana Church and the amazing Cappella Palatine, admirable example from an historical and an artistic point of view, and a prove of how different cultures and religions can coexist. During the day, you will have a stop to enjoy a typical lunch with local food. Along the path you will admire the famous Teatro Massimo and the debated fountain in Pretoria Square,





adorned with 16th century sculptures. Dinner on your own and overnight in hotel. \* You will greet the arrival of the new year in the wonderful city of Palermo which, decorated for the occasion with lights and colours, will celebrate the event with music and concerts in the main squares of the city centre.

\* Optional New Year's Eve dinner.

### Day 06

### DAY 6 - WEDNESDAY 01/01: PALERMO

Our special New Year's Eve Tour comes to an end. Breakfast in hotel and end of services.

Goodbye Sicily!

**Meal:** Breakfast

## Inclusions

Multilingual Tour leader and professional travel guide (English, Italian or Spanish) for the whole tour (from the evening of the 2nd day to the evening of the 5th day), local guides or audio-guides where necessary.

Deluxe bus from day 2 to day 5

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

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

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

5 international breakfast, 4 lunches in famous restaurants and 1 dinner in hotel to have a taste of Sicilian traditional cuisine.

Visit of the main suggestive Unesco World Heritage Sites: Syracuse, Noto, Caltagirone, Piazza Armerina, Agrigento, Monreale, Palermo.

Tasting of Sicilian typical products:

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

Palermo (day 5): tasting of local street food

## Exclusions



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

## Note

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
- Agrigento: Baia di Ulisse Wellness & SPA 4\* or similar.
- Palermo city centre: Mercure Palermo Centro 4\* / Ibis Styles Palermo Cristal 4\* or similar.
- Supplement for Pre-night in hotel in Catania (Bed and Breakfast treatment) rates available on request.
- Supplement for Post-night in hotel in Palermo (Bed and Breakfast treatment) rates available on request.
- Transfers Catania airport/hotel in Catania rates available on request.
- Transfers Palermo airport/hotel in Palermo rates available on request.
- Assistance – Medical Expense Reimbursement – Luggage insurance – Travel Cancellation Expenses Insurance: on request.

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

## Program Touring / Guide

Escorted Experience

## Fixed Departure

**27 Dec, 2024**

4 Star

AUD 1,906 P P twin share

AUD 2,331 P P single

AVAILABLE

