

# Small Group Tour

## Classic Sicily

8 Days/7 Nights



### Day 1 Catania

Upon your arrival in Catania airport, you'll meet your driver and private transfer to Giardini Naxos or Taormina. Check in a charming four-star hotel. Balance of the day at leisure. Enjoy a welcome dinner this evening.

### Day 2 Taormina / Etna

Morning: breakfast in hotel. Balance of the day at leisure in Taormina, famous for its Greek-Roman Amphitheatre and its enchanting view of the Ionic Sea and Mt. Etna. Taormina has been an exclusive Sicilian hotspot, since the beginning of the 19th century, and is where many noble and rich families of Northern Europe spent winters due to its mild climate. Nowadays, Taormina is famous for its "dolce vita" life style, its beautiful beach, and its shops or an optional tour by SUV to Etna Volcano with lunch in a winery. Return to the hotel and spend the evening at leisure.

### Day 3 Syracuse / Modica

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel. Meet your tour director before your departure to Syracuse. Enjoy a visit of Siracusa, which during the Greek Age was one of the more powerful cities on the island. Visit to the archaeological zone: the Greek Theatre, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Ear of Dionysus and the Latomie. Walk through the historical center on the Ortigia Island to admire the Cathedral, the Aretusa fountain and the ancient streets. Time at leisure for shopping and lunch on your own in Siracusa.

Afternoon: Depart for a visit of Noto a splendid baroque city. Proceed to Modica, the ancient capital of Contea, a city full of fascinating architectural, artistic and scenic attractions, unique among those pertaining to the splendid Sicilian Baroque period. Take a guided stroll through the area. Dinner at your hotel.

### Day 4 Piazza Armerina / Agrigento

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel and then depart for Piazza Armerina, a small town in the south-central part of the Island. Visit the Villa Romana del Casale, a Roman country villa of the 3rd century, famous for its unique well-preserved mosaics.

Afternoon: Depart to Agrigento to visit the beautiful Valley of the Temples, one of the most representative sites of Greek Civilization in the Mediterranean area. Visit to the Temple of Hercules, the Temple of Juno, the Temple of Castor and Pollux and the wonderful Temple of Concord. Transfer to Sciacca and dinner at your hotel.

### Day 5 Selinunte / Erice

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel before your depart to Selinunte on the southern coast towards Agrigento. Visit the archaeological area, the largest in Europe. Selinunte was one of the most important town of Western Sicily, in constant struggle against Segesta for power. Continue on to Marsala, a town on the Western coast famous for its wine production. Visit to Salt marshes, then transfer to a farmhouse for a visit to an Olive Oil factory followed by a lunch.

Afternoon: Transfer to Erice, a nearby medieval town, located at the top of the homonymous mountain set 751 meters above the sea level and overlooking the whole Western region, the Mediterranean Sea and the Egadi Islands. Walking visit of its characteristic historical centre. In the evening, check in at our hotel in Palermo.

### Day 6 Madonie Park / Cefalu'

After breakfast, transfer to Polizzi, a small typical Sicilian village, surrounded by cheerful countryside and green pastures. Polizzi lies in the Madonie Mountains' Natural Park.

Visit to Polizzi Generosa, the ancient village rich in historical and artistic attractions. During the walk through the town's medieval streets, guests will have a break for a sampling of typical sweetmeats. A cooking class in a local family will be organized, followed by a special lunch. In the afternoon, departure to Cefalù, famous for its rich historical centre (the Norman Cathedral and the medieval quarter) as well as for its beautiful beach and blue sea.

Enjoy a guided walking visit and some free time on your own to do shopping. Return to Palermo and check in your hotel.

### Day 7 Palermo / Mondello / Monreale

Walking tour of Palermo. Visit to this ancient town that has been a crossroads for civilization in the Mediterranean for ages and ages. Here, visit and seek out signs of its ancient "grandeur": the Norman Palace and the Palatine Chapel, the church of San Giovanni degli Eremiti, the Cathedral, Quattro Canti square, etc. Walk through the streets of the historical center, and visit to the town's popular Vucciria market. Lunch on your own in town.

In the afternoon, optional excursion to the fisherman village of Mondello and Monreale, famous for its wonderful Norman Cathedral.

In the evening, farewell dinner at selected restaurant in Palermo to enjoy the best authentic Sicilian cuisine. Back to the hotel and overnight.

### Day 8 Departure

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to the airport in Palermo, assistance with check-in and departure.

**RATE: \$2,790 p.p. (\$550 single supplement)**

### INCLUDED

- **7 nights in first class accommodation, breakfast included:**
  - In Palermo at Hotel Residenza d'Aragona or similar.
  - 1 night in Modica at Palazzo Failla.
  - In Sciacca at Terme di Acqua Pia.
  - In Taormina at Villa Riis or Villa Angela, or in Giardini Naxos at Sant'Alphio Garden.
- **Private English speaking chauffeur / guide (approx. 9 hrs./day) as per itinerary, meals and lodging included.**
- **4 dinners and 2 lunches.**
- **Sightseeing as per itinerary** (sites entry fees not included).
- **Guided visits to Olive oil cellar** (olive oil tasting included).
- **Private transfer from and to airports.**
- **Limited to 15 participants.**
- **All taxes**

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