

ENCHANTING

SICILY

E P I C U R E A N T R A V E L

DISCOVER
THE REAL
ITALY

BOUTIQUE
HOTELS

INCREDIBLE
FOOD AND
WINE

MANUELINA
culinary

A photograph of a historic building in Sicily. The building has a light-colored, textured facade with a large arched doorway. To the left of the doorway is a smaller arched entrance with a wooden door. A small plaque above the wooden door reads "BIBLIOTHEQUE LIBRARY BIBLIOTHECA". A large, ornate terracotta vase with pink flowers sits on a small stand to the left of the wooden door. The ground is paved with a checkered tile pattern. Two people are sitting on a stone ledge in the foreground, looking towards the building. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent orange rectangle in the center of the image.

Sicily is Italy's largest island, edged with dramatic coastlines, scattered with vestiges of Greek and Roman glory, and lorded over by a slumbering volcano. From the historic cities of Palermo and Syracuse to picturesque villages tucked into the hills, discover a legacy of great empires and a flourishing contemporary culture that have moulded its spectacular cuisine and wine

"What an amazing adventure you provided. The tour was so much more than we expected. Everything was thoroughly planned and highly organised but at no time did you feel you were on a tour, it was more like travelling with a group of friends. We saw so much more than we thought we would and got a real sense of the authentic Italian way of life. Melina's passion and enthusiasm set the tone from the moment we began our journey and remained throughout the entire adventure. This trip was excellent value for money, however the sense of belonging created amongst the group was something no amount of money could buy."

-Vicki & Anthony

DAY 1

Arrival Palermo

Upon arrival you will check in at your hotel. Enjoy some free time this afternoon before we meet at 6pm for a welcome reception drink and dinner





DAY 2

Palermo to Monreale - Local Markets and Street food

We spend the morning in Palermo, taking a guided tour of the Duomo, an eclectic cathedral that combines elements of Gothic, baroque, neoclassic, and Norman architecture. We will join in the vibrancy of a local food market and your lunch today will be a street food selection walking around in the old districts of Palermo, where you can't stop smelling the fried frittula, arancine and panelle, tasting pane ca meusa and discovering its pastry shops which offer traditional cannoli and cassata.

This afternoon we travel to nearby Monreale for a visit to its Norman cathedral. We wander through Moorish-style arcades and cloisters and examine its exquisite gold mosaics illustrating biblical tales

Dinner will be at a beautiful fine dining restaurant

DAY 3

Segesta, The Salt Mines, Marsala and Agrigento

This morning we head west to Segesta, where a beautifully preserved hilltop temple was begun in the fifth century. We will continue our journey toward the salt mines near Trapani with its fascinating windmills, followed by a visit to the world famous Donnafugata cellar in Marsala for a complete tasting of their production.

After our lunch, we travel to Agrigento, a prominent city in Magna Graecia. We will spend the evening with these magnificent temples as our backdrop



DAY 4

Scicli, Modica, Ragusa, Chocolate Cooking Class

Today we explore the incredible Valley of the Temples in Agrigento. Then departure toward, the UNESCO village of Scicli first and the charming Baroque hilltop town of Ragusa Ibla. In Ragusa, we stop in one of the local delicatessens, to taste the unforgettable sweets typical of the region like 'mpanatigghie and the typical chocolate of Modica, made based on the same recipe of ancient Aztecs in Mexico, because of the lack of cacao butter. This afternoon, we head for Syracuse, a city that once rivalled Athens in culture and economic strength. Tonight we dine with our friend and spectacular host who will demonstrate how to cook the Sicilian way!



DAY 5

Ortiga, Avola, Wine tasting

After a beautiful breakfast, we venture down the winding streets of Ortigia, a tiny island linked to Syracuse by a bridge, and pass the sixth-century-B.C. ruins of the Temple of Apollo, which has served as a church, a mosque, and a military barracks. Then visit the stunning Greek theatre and the adjacent quarry, now a massive grotto with resonating acoustics dubbed the "Ear of Dionysius". You will have some free time here to peruse this magical town, stop for an espresso or aperitivo or catch up on some shopping.

After a relaxed morning, we head toward the town of Avola, where we will visit a winery and appreciate the taste of one of the most famous Italian wines, Nero d'Avola, which will be served along with a bunch of local delicacies like almonds and pomodori Pachino



"A great week away, I loved the itinerary, the artisan producer visits, the accommodation, the food and the company!! The atmosphere was perfectly set"

-Jan Hamilton

A collage of various Sicilian sweets. In the foreground, there are several cannoli with white cream filling and chocolate chips, dusted with powdered sugar. To the right, there are green cassata cakes decorated with red cherries and orange slices. In the background, there are dark, round marzapane candies and other pastries.

DAY 6

Mount Etna, Walking and Food Tour, Catania, Cooking Class

Enjoy our morning drive up the coast to Europe's largest active volcano, where Mount Etna dominates eastern Sicily. The breathtaking volcano ascends to 2.900 meters above sea level. We take a trip by cable car and 4x4 to the very rim of this legendary volcano and behold a fascinating landscape forged by countless eruptions.

With our camera's full, we descend toward Catania for a walking & food tour and some time at leisure before we reach our hotel in Taormina and gather for a unique trip into the culture of this land: we will experience a decadent cooking class of all things sweet based on local glories like cannoli, cassata and marzapane

DAY 7

Taormina, Cheese Making, Michelin Dinner

This morning we meet our local guide for a tour of Taormina to visit Teatro Nuovo, the superb Greek-Roman theater and the lovely city center, then reach the beach with a cable car to enjoy a perfect aperitivo Sicilian style by the sea!

After a visit of a local cheese maker we then transfer to Messina with its stunning seaside promenade and the infamous 'funny astronomical clock'. And of course to enjoy the best granita in the island!

Back to Taormina for a great farewell and Michelin dinner!



DAY 8

Departure day

It's time to say goodbye as we transfer you towards your next destination

Optional Extension - Boat Excursion to the Aeolian Islands

This special excursion is set to discover the infinite richness of the 7 Aeolian Islands, all having a volcanic origin and offering a spectacular natural scenery: we will sail off to Salina for a sampling of its delectable cuisine based on – no surprise – seafood and of course a visit to a producer of the king of the local tables wild capers. Dinner will be in the Michelin restaurant of our beautiful resort 'Thesalia'



TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Seven (7) breakfasts, Five (5) tastings, Six (6) lunches, Six (6) dinners & Two (2) wine tastings
- One (1) Michelin dinner, One (1) fine dining dinner & Two(2) cooking classes
- Excursions-

Guided tour of Palermo, market tour in Palermo, street food tour in Palermo, guided walk of Monreale, visit to a working salt mine, Donnafugata winery tour and tastings, Sweets and chocolate tasting in Ragusa, Cooking class in Syracuse, wine and food tastings at a winery in Avola, Cable car and 4x4 tour of Etna, Foot tour of Catania markets, Desserts cooking class, guided tour of Taormina, guided walk of Messina, granita tasting

- Transfers in private coach,
- Seven (7) nights boutique accommodation
- Fully escorted by Melina Puntoriero, Manuelina Culinary, 8 days of professional guides

(7 NIGHTS, 8 DAYS)

COST PER PERSON 3400 EURO (BASED ON TWIN SHARE ACCOMMODATION)

LAND ONLY ARRANGEMENT

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT 680 EURO

To secure your place on this tour, a non-refundable deposit (unless the tour is cancelled) of EURO 1000 per person is required at the time of booking, together with a completed booking form and signed declaration.

*"Wine and dine your way around Italy, on a journey
into its' heart for an experience of a life time"
- Julia Fargo*

BOOK YOUR CULINARY ADVENTURE TODAY

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