

Sicily ... A Love of a Lifetime

Guaranteed departure

March 18 to March 25, 2017 and from Apr 22 to Apr 29, 2017

May 13 to May 20, 2017 and June 03 to June 10, 2017

July 01 to July 08, 2017 and Aug 26 to Sep 02, 2017

Sep 23 to Sep 30, 2017 and from Oct 14 to Oct 21, 2017

Nov 04 to Nov 11, 2017 and from Nov 25 to Dec 02, 2017



Immerse yourself in the local food, good wines, original experiences and breathtaking sights of Sicily.

Venture in the open market of Palermo for a "street food taste".

Walk in the medieval street of Erice, pausing at the enchanting "Stagnone di Masala" to enjoy its colorful sunset.

Travel into the history in the Greek Valley of Temples, making a stop in the Kolymbetra park for an original picnic. Spend time exploring the Syracuse area and also Etna strewn with vineyards and famous for its winemaking.

Meet a local "story teller" who introduces you to the area's renowned castles near Taormina.

Explore a nice wine cellar known as "Abbazia sant'Anastasia".

Spend time at the regal and today UNESCO site, city of Cefalù.

The true taste of Sicily awaits you! After this 8 days tour, you'll leave this beautiful island having fallen in love with the Sicilians, their cuisine and its beautys"

Sicily by Experts
di Franciscile T.O.

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8 Days / 7 Nights
DAY BY DAY PROGRAM

Day 1: Palermo

Arrival at **Palermo** airport .Free Transfer to the hotel. Check in at our charming hotel 4* central located . Welcome cocktail. Meet our guide for an introduction to the tour . **Welcome Dinner** in a elegant setting in central Palermo with the most refined Sicilian cuisine . A restaurant where you will have a unique dining experience

After dinner, panoramic tour of **Palermo by Night**. Return to the hotel and retire for the night. **(Dinner included)**

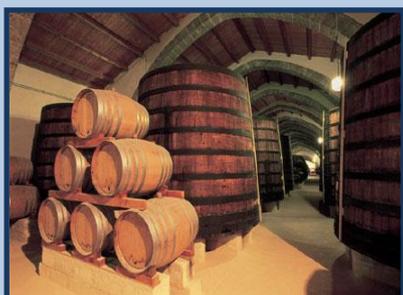


Day 2: Palermo Street Food and culture

Morning: The morning will be spent with a special walking tour of Palermo dedicated to “**Street food**”. A 3 hour walking tour where you will sample the best of Sicily’s street food, led by a local expert guide , you will explore the fascinating culinary world of Sicily’s Capital. You will visit the famous and bustling Vucciria and Mercato del Capo, outdoor markets, tasting five different Sicilian treats along the way – including “panelle” (chickpea fritters) and arancine (deep- fried rice balls). Pass major Palermo monuments during the tour: "Palermo Arabo-Normanna", "Palermo Barocca". Round out your tour with some local sweet wine and seasonal dessert.

Afternoon: Afternoon travel to **Monreale** the Norman “Mons Regalis”. The majestic dome was founded in the 12th century by the Norman king William II. It is 6.340 square meters of polychrome and gold mosaics and the access to the Benedictine cloister makes it one of the most magnificent testimonies of the Norman conquest of Sicily.

Back to the hotel. Dinner in a local restaurant. Creative Sicilian dishes will be served between strings and retro furnishings in an intimate and elegant setting. Overnight **(Breakfast, street food taste and dinner included)**



Day 3: Erice - Marsala between wines and pastry

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Then, transfer to **Erice**, a magnificent village nestled in a picturesque setting that rests untouched from medieval times and where our guests will visit its ancient churches and rich historic city centre. Visit to the **Antique Convent Pastry Shop**, one of the most renowned Sicilian bakeries. There, enjoy a taste of the fine Ercian pastries first created within the convent walls and, as a special treat, sample some of the typical almond dough desserts filled with candied lemon.

Next, transfer to **Marsala**, a city famous for the production of its namesake wine. Stop in **Donnafugata winery**.

*Donnafugata grew out of the commitment of a family in Sicily that has always believed in the extraordinary enological potential of its land and has 150 years of experience in producing premium wines. Convinced that it is always necessary to be open to change in order to grow and improve, **Giacomo Rallo** and his wife, **Gabriella**, launched a new production project in 1983: Donnafugata.*

Their adventure took wing from the family’s historic cellars in Marsala and the vineyards at Contessa Entellina in the heart of western Sicily and soared as far as the island of Pantelleria.



Don't miss the delicious red *Mille e Una Notte*, and *Donnafugata's* version of the famous *Passito di Pantelleria*, a sweet dessert wine, with intense notes of apricot, made partly from raisins on *Pantelleria*, an island off Sicily's southwestern coast.

Guided tasting of 4 wines in the charming "sala delle botti" combined with bread, olives, tuna, arancini, focacce, local cheeses.

Check in at the hotel for rest and relaxation.

And now you are ready for a pleasant evening. In front of one of the most peculiar landscape of Sicily: **the Stagnone di Marsala**, we will have an **Apero - dinner** in a charming place overlooking the saltpans during sunset.

Retire for the night. (**Breakfast, brunch and apero - dinner included**)



Day 4: A DIP BETWEEN NATURE AND HISTORY: AGRIGENTO - SYRACUSA

Morning: Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Then, transfer to Agrigento

Our morning will be dedicated to the visit of **Agrigento** a UNESCO World Heritage site since 1998 and one of the most symbolic remains of classical Greek civilization. Accompanied by a guide, you will experience the same sensations as they did, admiring the Temple of Juno and the grandiose Temple of Corcord, which will amaze you for its sheer size, harmonious architecture and perfect state of

preservation.

Picnic lunch at the Kolymbetra park, an agricultural jewel returned to light after decades of abandon. This Garden has fruit trees from every part of the world and some of the trees are over 1000 years old! Then surrounded by pomegranate, pistachio, orange and lemon trees and under the Mediterranean sun you will enjoy a typical **Sicilian lunch** served to you outdoors, complete with local fruit, cheese and wine. This is sure one of the highlights of your trip

Transfer to **Syracuse**, city with colourful history and beautiful landscape. Check in at our charming and unique hotel 4* Hotel. Are you ready to discover Sicily from an inner luxury perspective? In an historical and private cellar, welcomed by the owner, a dashing Sicilian baron with a schoolboy glint in his eyes, we will **be able to enjoy the fine wines produced by the Baron and some local products.**

Back to the hotel for overnight (**breakfast, picnic and reinforced wine tasting included**).



Day 5: BEAUTY and DOLCE VITA : SYRACUSA and TAORMINA

Breakfast at the hotel and check out. Morning dedicated to **Syracusa**, a prominent Ancient greek settlement in Italy. Visit the archaeological zone: the Greek Theatre, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Ear of Dionisus and the Latomie.

Stroll through the historical center on the Ortigia island to admire the Cathedral, the Aretusa fountain and the ancient streets. Time for shopping. Lunch on your own

Transfer to **Taormina** with a stopping in **Fiumefreddo** for a visit to the ancestral home

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of the notorious Corleone family at the heart of Francis Ford Coppola's classic nine-hour cinematic : the "Castello degli Schiavi", the house of **DON CORLEONE**.

This beautiful looking residence was built in 1700 as a country house for the Nobility.

The house was location for several scenes throughout the Godfather films including the un-intentional murder of Apollonia in the Godfather and also the brutal revenge Killing of Don Ciccio, by Vito Corleone in Godfather part II.



Walk into the castle and meet the owner that will let you introduce into the aim of the film

Continue to **Taormina** Check in at the hotel. Dinner in a local restaurant. Overnight (**Breakfast and dinner included**)



Day 6 : BETWEEN SKY and FIRE: ETNA - TAORMINA

After breakfast we depart for your "Special morning on Mt. Etna" one of our unique excursion in private jeep.

You will see the highest active volcano in Europe. You will discover many habitats and beautiful scenery, characteristic villages at its slopes and, of course, the terrific power of nature.

Following our excursion we'll continue our drive to **San Michele**, an ancient estate located on the slopes of the volcano Etna. The farm, which belongs to the noble family of the Baron Scammacca del Murgo, is surrounded by extensive vineyards and has a panoramic view of both Mt. Etna and the sea. Mt. Etna is the highest volcano in Europe. The climate and the volcanic soil help give wines a unique mineral taste typical of the region around Mt. Etna. At Tenuta San Michele they produce some of the best wines of the area: Etna Rosso, Etna Bianco and the extraordinary Murgo Brut. Wine tasting and guided visit to the wine cellar with a member of the family.

Lunch at the farm

Back to **Taormina** to spend the afternoon at leisure in this beautiful spot, which offers also historical and cultural attractions, such as the Greek Theatre, used as stage for many important international events.

You can also admire the various buildings in Corso Umberto, the main road that in the summer evenings is always crowded and just in the middle it widens on a "belvedere", with an unforgettable view on the whole bay.

Dinner on your own . Overnight in Taormina (**Breakfast and lunch included**)



Day 7: CASTELBUONO - CEFALU'

Morning: breakfast at the hotel and check out. Departure to **Castelbuono** a nice village at 20 minutes from Cefalù. Have a walking tour of the village and stop in a very know pastry to taste the famous "pistachos's panettone".

Have a lunch in a typical restaurant (based on mushrooms and asparagus)

Then a stop in a particular place: **Abbazia Santa Anastasia** a former Benedictine abbey built in the twelfth century in the hills high above the north coast. The medieval abbey or "abbazia" is

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steeped in a natural landscape so extraordinary that the present owner, entrepreneur Francesco Lena, originally purchased the land to turn the estate into a holiday resort. Instead, he began experimenting with international varietals such as Syrah, Merlot, and Cabernet Sauvignon as well as the indigenous Nero d'Avola. Continue to **Cefalù** . Check in at our hotel. Visit of this picturesque medieval town dominated by the gold - coloured cathedral, a Romanesque jewel built by the Norman king Roger II. The interior is decorated with fabulous mosaics executed in a spectacular array of colours on a gold background. Walking through the small streets of the historical city centre. The old roman lavatory can be seen here as a testimony of the strong ancient Roman presence here.. Farewell dinner in a restaurant overlooking the sea. Overnight at the hotel (**Breakfast , Lunch and dinner included**)



Day 8 – PALERMO AIRPORT

Breakfast in hotel. It's time to say goodbye. Transfer to **Palermo airport** for your return flight. Departure. See you at the next "Sicily By Experts" tour to explore an other corner of the Island.

PRICE per person in double: € 3950,00

single supp: € 300,00

GUARANTEED DEPARTURES

Our guaranteed departure tour program will require a minimum of 2 participants to qualify for a guaranteed departure. Are you going to join the group? Take this opportunity with our guaranteed tour. Choose the suitable date and send us your inquiry - our Tour Operator will contact you as soon as possible

the inclusions in the price are:

- (7) Seven overnights in 4 star hotels
- 7 daily breakfast included;
- Transportation by private car or minivan for the whole tour;
- English speaking driver – courier for the whole tour;
- 11 special meals in typical restaurants and original places as per itinerary
- Local guides in Palermo , Agrigento and Syracuse
- all taxes for services included in itinerary.

The exclusions in the prices are:

- airfare
- The optional excursions
- Drinks during the meals (except the ones mentioned)
- Meals not mentioned
- Entrance fees in the monuments and museums
- everything not mentioned in the list of inclusions tips and personal expenses

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