



PERSONALLY CURATED SMALL GROUP & PRIVATE JOURNEYS

EUROPE 2017|18



SICILY BELLA

10 Days

Beautiful Sicily – historic, mysterious, authentic and diverse. Like its many visitors over the ages, discover the Mediterranean's largest island with its stunning coastline, rugged mountains, rich agriculture, active volcano, ancient ruins, historic villages and warm Sicilian hospitality. You will be left breathless by its beauty, mesmerised by its contrast and fulfilled by the authentic experience of a land that has been much explored, but never conquered.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

- > Visit 'must see' towns of Palermo, Cefalù, Agrigento, Ortigia, Ragusa, Modica and Taormina.
- > 9 nights in exquisite 5 star hotels.
- > 9 breakfasts (B), 1 lunch (L).
- > Guided sightseeing tours of Palermo, Agrigento's Valley of the Temples, Villa Romana del Casale and Ragusa.
- > Visit 3 UNESCO World Heritage Listed sites.
- > Lunch and wine tasting at Planeta winery.
- > Visit and tasting at a famous patisserie and chocolatier.
- > Entrance fees to the Cappella Palatina, Valley of the Temples, Villa Romana del Casale.
- > Deluxe transport.
- > Airport transfers on first and last day.

DAY 1 Palermo

Welcome to Sicily Bella, commencing a journey designed to deliver Sicily's best landscapes, attractions and authentic experiences. Upon arrival, be transferred to your hotel to relax and enjoy the evening at your leisure.

Overnight: Villa Igiea Grand Hotel Mgallery 5 star or similar

DAY 2 Palermo (B)

Enjoy a full day guided tour of historic Palermo – founded in 734BC. Visit its main attractions including Palermo Cathedral, San Giovanni degli Eremiti church, Ballarò market and the beautiful 12th century Italian Palace – Palazzo dei Normanni. Continue to the seaside village of Mondello before transferring to your hotel to relax for an evening at your leisure.

Overnight: Villa Igiea Grand Hotel Mgallery or similar

DAY 3 Palermo – Cefalù – Castelbuono – Palermo (B)

Venture to the amazing seaside town of Cefalù, nestled between the Tyrrhenian Sea and a distinctive precipitous rock. Enjoy time to stroll the cobbled streets of this enchanting town and climb the stairs of the rock for a breathtaking view. Continue to the tiny village of Castelbuono in the Madonie Natural Park for a tasting at a famous pastry shop. Return to Palermo where the evening is at your leisure.

Overnight: Villa Igiea Grand Hotel Mgallery or similar

DAY 4 Palermo – Corleone – Sciacca (B, L)

Depart for Corleone, a town once surrounded by defensive walls that connected the Castello Soprano and Sottano Castles and infamous for being the birthplace of several mafia bosses. Continue to the town of Sambuca di Sicilia for lunch and wine tasting at the elegant Planeta Winery, before continuing to your amazing hotel near Sciacca.

Overnight: Verdura Resort 5 star or similar

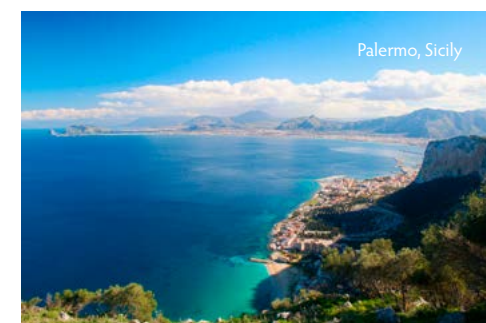


COMBINE WITH

This tour may be extended for a 3 day/2 night visit to the Aeolian Islands or combined with Highlights of Italy (South) on certain dates.

PRIVATE JOURNEY

This tour may be taken any time as a private journey.



Palermo, Sicily



Ragusa, Sicily



DAY 5 Sciacca – Agrigento – Sciacca (B)

Enjoy an excursion to Agrigento’s amazing UNESCO World Heritage Listed ‘Valley of the Temples’ featuring the largest and best-preserved Greek temples outside of Greece. The remarkable ruins date back to the 6th century BC; an era occupied by the richest and most famous Greek colony. The afternoon is yours to relax at your amazing hotel.

Overnight: Verdura Resort or similar

DAY 6 Sciacca – Piazza Armerina – Syracuse (B)

Depart for Piazza Armerina to visit Villa Romana del Casale, the UNESCO World Heritage Listed 4th century villa featuring the world’s most impressive collection of Roman mosaics. After enjoying time to stroll around, continue to the seaside town of Syracuse.

Overnight: Des Etrangers 5 star or similar

DAY 7 Syracuse (B)

Enjoy the day at your leisure to explore Syracuse and the old town of Ortigia – celebrated with a UNESCO World Heritage Listing for its architectural creation of Greek, Roman and Baroque influences.

Overnight: Des Etrangers or similar

DAY 8 Syracuse – Modica – Ragusa – Taormina (B)

Depart Syracuse for a visit to the Val di Noto region renowned for its Baroque art. Discover Modica’s Old Town founded in 1360BC and a tasting at a famous chocolatier. Continue to Ragusa for a short architectural tour of its more significant works, before journeying north to the beautiful resort town of Taormina.

Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel 5 star or similar

DAY 9 Taormina – Mt Etna – Taormina (B)

This morning, visit Mt Etna – the largest active volcano in Europe. The rest of the day is yours to stroll the cobbled streets of Taormina, shop in its trendy boutiques or visit the stunning Teatro Greco amphitheatre.

Overnight: San Domenico Palace Hotel or similar

DAY 10 Taormina – Catania (B)

After breakfast, transfer to Catania Airport for your ongoing journey.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION

An ‘island off an island’ experience.

DAY 10 Taormina – Aeolian Islands (B)

Depart Taormina for Milazzo to board your hydrofoil to Lipari, located in the beautiful Tyrrhenian Sea. Enjoy the remainder of the day to explore the largest island in the volcanic archipelago of the Aeolian Islands.

Overnight: Hotel Tritone 5 star or similar

DAY 11 Aeolian Islands (B)

Today is at your leisure giving you the choice of several enticing options. Visit the island of Stromboli to see the amazing ‘Strombolicchio’ – a volcanic plug formation known as the inspiration behind Mordor from Tolkien’s Lord of the Rings. ‘Sciara del Fuoco’ is another Stromboli highlight.

Alternatively, soothe the mind and body with an excursion to Vulcano’s mud baths or enjoy the luscious vegetation of the island of Salina.

Overnight: Hotel Tritone or similar

DAY 12 Aeolian Islands – Catania (B)

After breakfast, return to Catania for your onward journey.



Taormina



Cefalu, Sicily



Ortigia, Sicily

BEAUTIFUL SICILY – HISTORIC, MYSTERIOUS, AUTHENTIC AND DIVERSE



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Teatro Greco, Taormina