



SICILY, ITALY'S ISLAND GEM

Sicily is an island with a personality all its own. Just when you think Italy can't get any better, you find yourself engrossed in an unexpected paradise. Sicily is one of Europe's most fascinating islands with an unparalleled heritage. The deep-rooted marks left by the Phoenicians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Normans, and Spanish and Italian civilizations have created a cultural paradise that is full of flavor to be found in the region's celebrated wines, renowned cuisine, diverse architecture, and masterpieces of art. Join Cooper's Hawk Master Sommelier, Emily Wines, as she hosts this tour custom built to serve you up panoramic views from waterfront villages to mountaintop vineyards - from quaint villages to impressive archaeological sites. Enriched with wine and food experiences, you'll find this Cooper's Hawk Wine Club tour a treasure trove of memorable immersion.

We'll top it off with a night in Rome at the end of the tour!



OCTOBER 18 - 28, 2021



DEPART USA

Board your overnight flight from your home city.

ARRIVE IN PALERMO, ITALY

Welcome to Palermo, the 2,700-year-old capital of Sicily! A group transfer is provided from the airport to your hotel (normal check-in times apply). This evening you will join your Tour Director for a welcome dinner with wine at a popular restaurant with stunning ocean views.

Meals Included – Dinner

Hotel – NH Palermo or similar

HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome Dinner

Palermo City View

Palermo City Street



PALERMO - CEFALÙ - PALERMO

This morning we visit the spectacular resort town of Cefalù. Your guided sightseeing includes the cathedral with its Norman, Latin, Greek, and Arab influences, a visit to the Piazza del Duomo, and the church of Purgatory. There will be free time after our tour to explore the old town with its medieval lanes and seafront promenade on your own. Later, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant, followed by a traditional granita dessert. After lunch return to Palermo to visit the 12th-century Norman Cathedral in Monreale, famous for its 50,000 square feet of precious Byzantine mosaics. The remainder of the day is at your leisure; your Tour Director will be on hand for suggestions.

Meals Included – Breakfast, Lunch
Hotel – NH Palermo or similar

HIGHLIGHTS

Excursion to Cefalù; Palermo Tour

Cefalù Beach

Cefalù City

Norman Cathedral



ERICE - MARSALA

PASTICCERIA MARIA GRAMMATICO; SALT MILL; DONNAFUGATA WINERY & PAIRED TASTING

Join your Tour Director for an orientation to the hilltop town of Erice, a charming village of beauty and tradition, and end at the well-known Pasticceria Maria Grammatico to taste traditional almond biscuits and Marsala wine. Our next stop is to explore the workings of a traditional Salt Mill. Later we visit Donnafugata Winery for a tour of their historic cellar, continuing from the baroque cellar to Sala delle Botti (tasting salon), followed by a tasting of four wines paired with four Sicilian specialties. Donnafugata Winery is one of Italy's finest wineries and praised by wine critics and wine lovers alike all over the globe.

Meals Included – Breakfast

Hotel – Giardino di Costanza Resort or similar

HIGHLIGHTS

Hilltop Town of Erice

Pasticceria Maria Grammatico

Traditional Salt Mill

Donnafugata Winery



MENFI - SCIACCA - AGRIGENTO

LA FORESTERIA ESTATE LUNCHEON WITH WINE PAIRING; VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES

Enjoy the morning at leisure before continuing to Menfi, an ancient village characterized by impressive cultural attractions. Stop at the La Foresteria Estate for a delightful culinary lunch with wine pairing. In Sciacca, a port town with an interesting past where fishing is still its main industry today, we'll stop to take pictures from the panoramic viewpoint before continuing to Agrigento. Here, your Local Guide will take you for a spectacular walk through the magnificent Valley of the Temples. Even travelers who have visited Athens and Delphi are awed by the gigantic yet graceful Greek structures that miraculously survived 24 centuries of tumultuous history. This evening enjoy dinner at a local agriturismo.

Meals Included – Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Hotel – Hotel GH Mose or similar in Agrigento

HIGHLIGHTS

La Foresteria Estate

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Valley of the Temples

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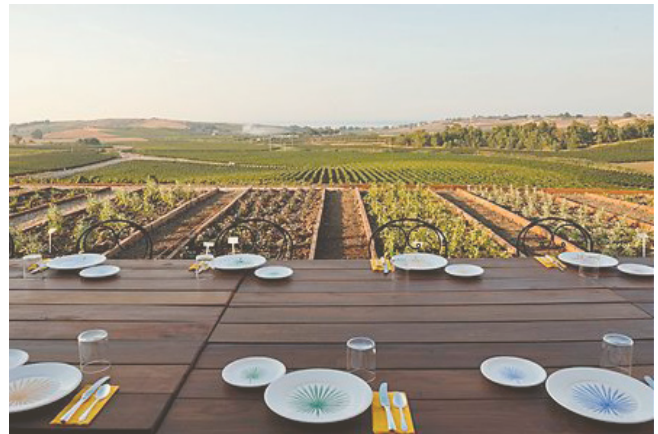
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PIAZZA ARMERINA - RAGUSA CITY

VILLA ROMANA DEL CASALE UNESCO SITE; VALLE DELL'ACATE WINERY LUNCHEON WITH WINE PAIRING

Drive to Piazza Armerina for your guided visit of the Villa Romana del Casale, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Admire the largest and most complex collection of Roman mosaics in the world, including the famous "Bikini Girls," discovered in 1960. Our next stop is a visit to Valle dell'Acate Winery for a lunch pairing, including two Valle dell'Acate wines paired to a seasonal menu. We'll continue to Ragusa, a spectacular hilltop town, where our guided sightseeing features a walkthrough Ragusa's oldest district, the IBLA, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with its beautiful palaces and churches. We'll stroll through the Giardini Iblei, the pleasant public gardens laid out in the 19th century, and then visit the iconic baroque St. George Cathedral. There will be some time on your own to further explore the town or maybe relax at an outdoor café. Your Tour Director will be on hand for dinner suggestions.

Meals Included – Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel – Hotel Poggio del Sole or similar in Ragusa

HIGHLIGHTS

Roman Mosaics

Valle dell'Acate Winery

Ragusa City



MODICA - SYRACUSE

TOUR & CHOCOLATE TASTING; SYRACUSE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE; ORTIGIA ISLAND CRUISE & FOODIE TOUR

After breakfast, travel to Modica with its steeply stacked medieval town center and spectacular baroque churches. Wander along Corso Umberto I and stop at the famous Dolceria Bonajuto, Sicily's oldest chocolate factory, for a chocolate tasting. We continue on to Syracuse, birthplace of the mathematician Archimedes. Enter the Archaeological Site for a guided visit of the 5th century BC sparkling-white Greek Theater, the Garden of Paradise, the Ear of Dionysus, the Altar of Hieron II, the Roman Amphitheater, and the Cordmakers' Cave. This evening, we'll discover the historic and culinary heart of Syracuse on an enchanting excursion to Ortigia Island, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and ancient place of myths and legends. Your adventure begins with an hour-long narrated sightseeing cruise around Porto Grande. We'll pass the Umbertino and Saint Lucia Bridges that connect the island to the mainland, then head out to see the ancient promontories, shorelines, and estuaries whose fascinating histories are "explained" in Greek mythology. Along the way, we encounter a mussel-breeding farm, a protected natural marine area mentioned clear back in Virgil's Aeneid in 19 BC, ruins from the Bronze Age, and a 13th-century castle fortress that defended the city's bay from invaders. Next, disembark your cruise boat and get ready to eat like a Sicilian! Join your expert guide for an easy 1.5-hour Foodie Walking tour around Ortigia that includes a tasting in a local café with two glasses of wine as well as a visit with tasting in a local bakery. Bask in the charming atmosphere as you interact with the friendly food vendors, discover the delectable local fare, and pass by the major landmarks.

Meals Included – Breakfast

Hotel – Mercure Siracusa Prometeo Hotel or similar in Syracuse

HIGHLIGHTS

Chocolate Tasting

Syracuse City

Ortigia Island

Local Market

Ortigia Foodie Tour



MOUNT ETNA - GIARDINI NAXOS

ETNA WINERY

This morning we enjoy a scenic drive with a Local Guide through orchards, vineyards, and forests en route to Europe's highest active volcano, Mount Etna. From our vantage point at 6,500 feet, we'll observe the unusual landscape of extinct craters and rivers of solidified lava. We'll visit a Local Winery for a Wine Tasting and learn about wines produced on the lava terrain of Etna, followed by lunch. Continue to Giardini Naxos for your next two nights.

Meals Included – Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel – Villa Esperia or similar

HIGHLIGHTS

Mount Etna Vineyards

Mount Etna Grapes



TAORMINA - CASTELMOLA

ANTICO CAFFÈ SAN GIORGIO; PIZZA COOKING CLASS

After breakfast, we head to the hilltop city of Taormina to visit the ancient Greek Theatre, dating back to the 3rd century BC. Enjoy free time for lunch, with time to explore Corso Umberto, the main street of Taormina, then visit Villa Comunale di Taormina, a sublime public garden designed by Lady Florence Trevelyan. Next, we head to a medieval village located on a hill above Taormina, Castelmola; with its stunning views, it is considered one of the most beautiful villages in Italy. We'll stop at the historic Antico Caffè San Giorgio, established in 1907, and enjoy a tasting of their famous almond wine flavored with oranges and herbs and sample typical Sicilian products like almond and pistachio sweets, jams, citrus honey, and pesto. Afterwards enjoy free time to explore this quaint village on your own before returning back to our hotel. Tonight, we'll participate in a Pizza Cooking Class, with a Sicilian cheese and wine tasting, followed by dinner, which includes your handmade pizza in addition to homemade pasta.

Meals Included – Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel – Villa Esperia or similar

HIGHLIGHTS

Taormina

Antico Caffè San Giorgio

Pizza Cooking Class



ROME

PANTHEON, TREVI FOUNTAIN & THE COLOSSEUM

After breakfast, we catch our flight to Rome. Join a Local Guide for a walking tour past bustling piazzas; the incredible Pantheon, the best-preserved Roman temple; lively Navona Square, the heart and soul of Rome's social life; and the beautiful Trevi Fountain, where legend says tossing a coin will promise your return to Rome! An included headset will ensure you don't miss a single word of your guide's fascinating commentary. Then, enjoy views of other major sites as you drive to the Roman Forum to visit the ancient Colosseum, where gladiators once fought. Tonight, we'll enjoy a farewell dinner with wine at a local restaurant.

Meals Included – Breakfast, Dinner

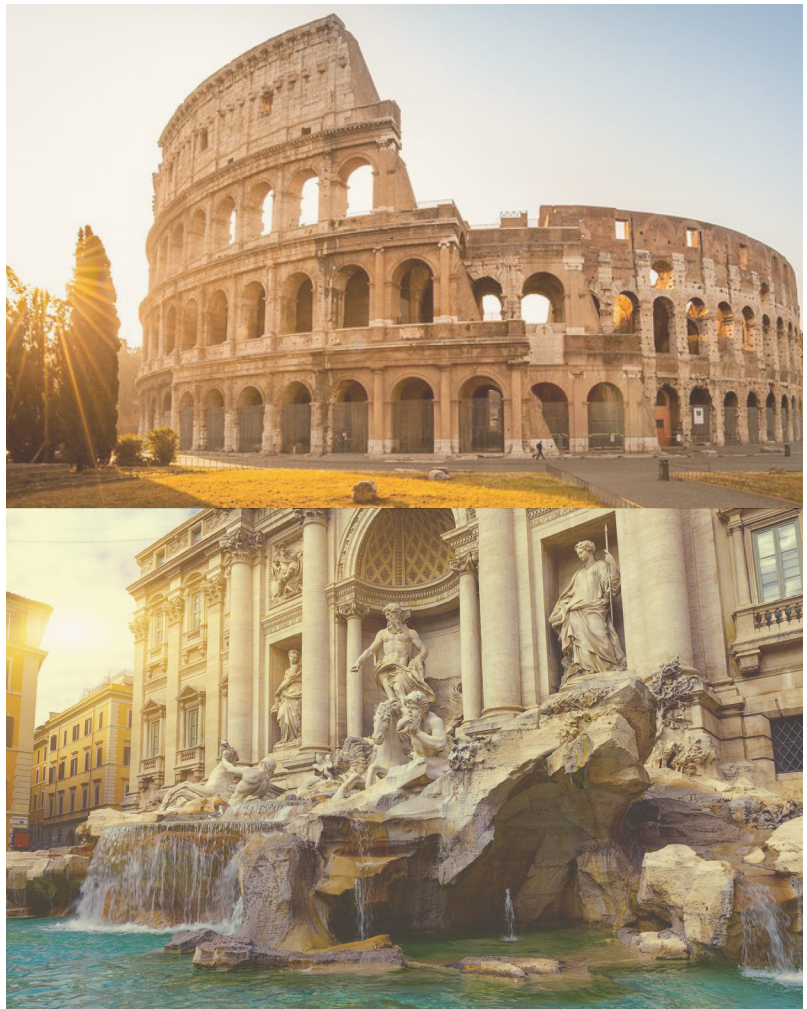
Hotel – Best Western Plus Universo or similar

HIGHLIGHTS

Colosseum

Pantheon

Trevi Fountain



DEPART ROME

After breakfast, a group transfer is provided to the airport for your homebound flight.

Meal Included – Breakfast

inclusions

INCLUDED

- 9 nights' accommodations at superior first-class hotels
- Sightseeing, tours, activities & attractions as shown
- Breakfast daily, four lunches, four dinners
- Internal air from Taormina to Rome
- Tour director, local guides
- Private coach throughout
- Taxes
- Gratuities for tour guide and driver (local guide gratuities not included)

NOT INCLUDED

- International Air
- Meals when not mentioned as included
- Room service & personal room charges
- Excess baggage and portorage
- Local guide gratuities
- Private transfers if you do not arrive/depart with group
- Trip cancellation and travel insurance
- Additional pre/post nights



rates

\$3,997

Double occupancy (per person)

\$4,557

Single occupancy

Space is limited on this tour and will be sold on a first-come basis upon receipt of deposit. To make reservations, please call or email Carol or Kelly (contact information below).

You must have a valid passport for travel to Italy. At this time, no visa is necessary for US citizens to travel to Italy.

This tour requires a minimum of 26 participants to operate.

Wineries, hotels, dinners, activities, and attractions can be subject to change.

deposit & final payment

\$800 DEPOSIT (NON-REFUNDABLE)

per person, due upon making reservations

FINAL PAYMENT

due by July 6, 2021

Forms of payment include cash, check, Mastercard, Visa, or American Express.

airfare

Airfare is not included, but we are happy to assist you in securing your air tickets. Arrive into Palermo Airport on October 19 by 11:15 a.m. to catch the group transfer. Depart from Rome Fiumicino on October 28 at 11:00 a.m. or later. Transfers outside of the group times will be available for an additional cost.

land cancellation policy

DEPOSIT - JULY 6, 2021

\$800 per person penalty

JULY 7, 2021 - DEPARTURE

non-refundable

This tour is non-refundable. Trip cancellation and travel insurance is highly recommended. Travel Guard trip cancellation and travel insurance will be quoted at the time of booking. Travel Guard Vouchers can be used toward these new dates of travel. Modification costs may apply. If we have a waitlist, we may be able to assist with a name change instead of a cancellation on land only. Name changes have a \$100 per person administrative fee. There is no guarantee we will have someone to take your spot in which case full cancellation fees will apply. Air tickets are non-refundable from the time of ticketing. Name changes are not allowed on air tickets. Future Travel Credits (Line of Credit) are non-refundable and non-transferable although we will do our best to negotiate this if the situation arises.

reservations



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COOPER'S HAWK™
WINERY & RESTAURANTS

