

A scenic view of a Sicilian town, likely Agrigento, featuring ancient ruins in the foreground and a mountain in the background. The image is a promotional graphic for a cultural adventure.

Sicily

CULTURAL ADVENTURE

STRADA *Toscana*

ITINERARY

SICILY - CULTURAL ADVENTURE

DAY 1 - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8: *Palermo* (1 night)

- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Arrival at hotel, walking tour Palermo, aperitivo and welcome dinner
- **MEALS:** Dinner

In the afternoon we meet up with our exceptional local guide in the hotel lobby for a fascinating walking tour in the heart of baroque Palermo, including a private visit with an amazing artist who paints the famous, colorful carts of Sicily. This evening we enjoy a special welcome aperitivo and dinner at an authentic, local restaurant, featuring a delectable menu and regional wine.

DAY 2 - MONDAY, OCTOBER 9: *Agrigento* (2 nights)

- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Agrigento walking tour, Valley of the Temples, sunset aperitivo
- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

This morning, after a leisurely breakfast, we make our way to Agrigento and our characteristic accommodations overlooking ancient temples. After a walking tour of the historic city of Agrigento, you'll have free time to explore the winding avenues and enjoy lunch on your own. In the afternoon, we join our guide at the Valley of the Temples to enjoy a private guided tour of this incredible site, followed by sunset aperitivo right here amongst the temples. Dinner follows at one of our favorite local spots.

DAY 3 - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10: *Agrigento*

- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Exploring coastal villages, Scala dei Turchi, cooking lesson
- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

Today we set out to see one of the region's most evocative sites - the stunning Turkish Steps that meet the azure sea below. Then it's off to explore some of the region's most inviting seaside villages, each with its own character and charm, and where you can settle in for lunch on your own at an outdoor cafe. In the afternoon we're off to take part in a delightful cooking lesson with a friend of our local guide - so fun! Aperitivo and dinner follow, featuring some of your own homemade dishes.

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DAY 4 - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11: *Taormina* (3 nights)

- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Sicilian ceramics in Caltagirone, walking tour Taormina
- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Lunch

Today we're off to the eastern side of Sicily, with a stop along the way at the village of Caltagirone where you find the colorful ceramics that have been produced here in Sicily for generations, before enjoying lunch together at a local trattoria. Afterwards we continue to check in at our seaside accommodations in Taormina, then it's off to explore this gorgeous town with our local guide. Dinner is on your own, either in Taormina or at the hotel.

DAY 5 - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12: *Taormina, Mt. Etna*

- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Coastal boat ride, wine tasting and picnic dinner on the slopes of Mt. Etna
- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Dinner

This morning we take a spectacular boat ride along the eastern coast of Sicily, where you'll view the villages and castle towers from the sea, along with stunning views of Mt. Etna. Afterwards you'll have free time to relax at the hotel's private beach, followed by an excursion to the slopes of Mt. Etna for an evening wine tasting and picnic style dinner at our friends' classic Sicilian farm.

DAY 6 - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13: *Siracusa*

- **HIGHLIGHTS:** Walking tour Siracusa, visit to the ruins of Siracusa
- **MEALS:** Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

Today we're off to the whitewashed avenues of historic Siracusa, where you'll enjoy a fascinating private tour with our native guide. Learn how Siracusa was once a greater city than Athens, as you visit the Greek theater, then walk the footbridge to the island of Ortigia where you'll visit the baroque piazza del duomo and the colorful Ortigia market. On your own you might visit the archeological museum or Castello Maniace, before selecting the perfect cafe for lunch. This evening we'll return to Taormina for a special farewell aperitivo and dinner.

DAY 7 - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14: *Departure*

Group transport to Catania Airport

4-STAR & 5-STAR ACCOMMODATIONS

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GRAND HOTEL PIZZA BORSA - PALERMO: We begin our adventure with a luxurious night's stay at the Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa in the historic center of Palermo. Here you'll explore the Baroque avenues and dine on some of Sicily's finest cuisine. The hotel is also convenient to reach from the Palermo Airport.

HOTEL BAGLIO DELLA LUNA - AGRIGENTO: Our next two nights bring us to Agrigento and Hotel Baglio della Luna, complete with a 13th century guard tower, and one of few accommodations with a view of the Valley of the Temples. From here we'll explore villages along the coast, dine on regional specialties and enjoy sunset aperitivo amongst magnificent Greek temples.

LA PLAGES RESORT - TAORMINA: Elegant, 5-star La Plage Resort in Taormina is our home-base for a spectacular three-nights stay on the Isola Bella Nature Reserve. From this spectacular property, with its bungalow rooms and private beach, we'll stroll the avenues of charming Taormina, take a scenic coastal boat ride, explore the ruins of Siracusa and enjoy aperitivo on our friends' farm on the slopes of Mt. Etna.



MEALS: From breakfast to dinner, the foods are Sicily vibrantly reflect the culture of Italy's southern-most region. Our insider connections will introduce you to delectable authentic dishes, including homemade arancini, pasta alla Norma - made with delicious, fresh tomatoes - savory caponata and brioche con gelato. Plus all dinners are served with excellent local wines that pair perfectly with hand-selected menus.

TRIP DETAILS

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DATES:

October 8-14, 2023

TRIP PRICE:

- Double Occupancy: **\$4,195 USD per person**
- Single Occupancy **\$4,195 USD per person + \$850 USD single supplement**

INCLUSIONS:

- 7 days/6 nights at hand-selected accommodations
- Private group transportation to Catania Airport on departure day
- Ground transportation to/from all accommodations and sites
- All breakfasts
- 1 Lunch
- 5 Dinners with regional wines
- Private, coastal boat tour from Taormina
- Free time for shopping and exploring
- Invigorating, guided walks
- Tours with exceptional local guides who know Sicily inside out
- Private visits and experiences
- Not included: Airfare, meals, alcoholic drinks, buses, trains or boat transportation outside of that which is specifically listed in the trip package, gratuities for hotel staff, drivers and guides

The Unexpected is Part of the Journey: At Strada Toscana we weave amazing, authentic experiences into every trip, but sometimes unexpected things come up. If a site has an unscheduled closing, we improvise to include something equally as wonderful and interesting. The quality of the trip is never at risk, as our team is committed to excellence, along with our vast, local, Italian connections.

WALKING AND LUGGAGE:

Walking is an integral part of our tours. You can expect to walk on uneven cobblestones, up steep hillsides, and on steps, steps and more steps. This is not normal street walking! You must also be prepared to handle your own luggage - including up stairs in hotels, since some do not have elevators. We advise that you do not book this tour if you have a physical or health-related condition, including dependence on a cane, walker or wheelchair, that impedes your ability to walk freely and safely - especially when handling luggage.

BOOK NOW

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Complete our easy booking form,
then place your deposit.

Note that you will receive a receipt by email that your deposit was processed,
and within 24 hours you will receive an official trip confirmation from
Strada Toscana.

Have questions?
Contact us at info@stradatoscana.com



stradatoscana.com