

LUXURY INDIVIDUAL



SICILY

# Authentic, real and intimate Sicily

Designed by

**TARGET TRAVEL**

Tailor made tours, since 1985

# Authentic, real and intimate Sicily



An itinerary tailor-made for travelers willing to understand some facets of this mysterious land, rich in conflicts but undoubtedly fascinating. An unforgettable memory of this region that you will keep in your heart forever.

## Wow moments

A journey in Catania's history

A coffee in the Godfather's bar

Cyclopes' Riviera

Guided tour of Taormina

Visit to the Mikveh in Siracusa

Noto: Baroque Capital of Sicily

Visit to the most popular chocolate factory in Modica

Tasting in a winery in Pachino

Visit Caltagirone, the city of ceramics



Caltagirone, ceramist



Siracusa, market

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## Overview

Enjoy a unique experience of knowing the most beautiful country in the world with the eyes of who have always lived there.

DAY 1	Arrival · Catania · Acireale
DAY 2	Acireale · Catania · Savoca · Riviera dei Ciclopi · Acireale
DAY 3	Acireale · Etna · Taormina · Acireale
DAY 4	Acireale · Siracusa · Noto · Ragusa
DAY 5	Ragusa · Modica · Pachino · Marzamemi · Ragusa
DAY 6	Ragusa · Caltagirone · Catania · Departure

## Highlights

- Catania
- Acireale
- Savoca
- Mt. Etna
- Taormina
- Siracusa
- Noto
- Ragusa
- Modica
- Pachino
- Marzamemi
- Caltagirone



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## Itinerary

### DAY 1 | ARRIVAL · CATANIA · ACIREALE

Arrival at Catania airport and transfer to your hotel in Acireale or Etna area.

### DAY 2 | ACIREALE · CATANIA · SAVOCA · RIVIERA DEI CICLOPI · ACIREALE

In the morning, guided tour of Catania. You will get to know the Greek and Roman city through its main monuments linked up to the classic archeology: Roman Amphitheatre, Greek-Roman Theatre, Thermae Achilleane and Thermae della Rotonda.

Between one site and the other we will walk on Via Etnea, Piazza Duomo and we will also visit 'A Piscaria, the ancient fish market.

Later, we will visit another Catania, the city reborn after the terrible earthquake in 1693, and its magnificent Unesco monuments: Piazza Duomo, Sant'Agata Cathedral, Badia di Sant'Agata, Piazza Università, Church of Collegiata and Via Crociferi, the most beautiful Baroque street in Catania.

Before lunch you will taste the best Arancino in your life!

Lunch at leisure (not included).

In the afternoon proceed to Savoca, the village of the "Godfather". Savoca, an unspoilt medieval town near Taormina that acted as stand-in for Corleone where Michael was hiding out during the "going to the mattresses" time. Here you will visit Bar Vitelli that looks exactly the way it did in the movie, and see the exact spot where Al Pacino informed Apollonia's father that his name was Michael Corleone. Here you can take pictures with an authentic Sicilian shotgun "Lupara", see pictures from the movie and a mirror monument for Coppola, enjoy panoramic view of the Mediterranean opening from the square where the wedding ceremony scene was shot, purchase The Godfather souvenirs, and - "leave the gun, take the cannoli" - taste original Sicilian cannoli and lemon granita at Bar Vitelli.

Then you will walk to an ancient church of Santa Lucia, where Michael and Apollonia were married kneeling in the doorway. Then follow the same path down the hill that the newlyweds did, and visit another old church dating back to the 13th century. Walking along the fabulous streets of Savoca, on a good day you can also meet some actors - for example a lady who played Apollonia's mother and who still lives in Savoca.

Panoramic drive along the Cyclopes' Riviera with its enchanting views and return to the hotel.

### DAY 3 | ACIREALE · ETNA · TAORMINA · ACIREALE

Half-day excursion to Mt. Etna, you will admire the biggest active volcano in Europe. Arrival at Rifugio Sapienza and easy walk through the Crateri Silvestri.

Proceed to Linguaglossa, visit to an amazing winery, where you will enjoy a typical lunch including tasting of their best wines.

After lunch, guided tour of Taormina, legendary resort rich with history and sights, also known as the Pearl of the Ionian Sea. You will walk the main street Corso Umberto, see important sights and monuments - the Greek Theatre, ancient Roman Theatre Odeon, Palazzo Corvaja, St. Caterina church, Palazzo dei Duchi di St. Stefano, the narrowest street Vicolo Stretto, Piazza IX Aprile, Piazza Duomo with the symbol of Taormina - fountain monument of centaur with female head, and other interesting sights.

Return to the hotel.

### DAY 4 | ACIREALE · SIRACUSA · NOTO · RAGUSA

In the morning we leave Acireale and depart to Siracusa. If we will arrive early in the morning, it will be interesting and fascinating visiting the open-air market. Visit Ortigia, where we will find out not only the classic sites, but also something more unusual like the Mikveh, a significant site of Jewish heritage in Sicily, Maniace Castle, Bagno della Regina, Ortigia's narrow streets and masks.

We won't miss gastronomy, an important part of Siracusa's culture and traditions. You will

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hesitate between almond milk granita at Antica Bottega Monzù and famous panini at Borderi. After a typical aperitif, lunch will be at leisure.

Proceed to Noto and visit of Sicily's Baroque Capital. Its old town center is an Unesco world heritage since 2006. The medieval town was destroyed by an earthquake in 1693 but Noto was rebuilt and offers today impressive baroque architectures to the visitors. The splendid cathedral is one of the most famous buildings in Noto but the town is also famous for the yearly Infiorata flower festival along via Nicolaci.

Arrival in Marina di Ragusa and check-in at the hotel.

### DAY 5 | RAGUSA · MODICA · PACHINO · MARZAMEMI · RAGUSA

In the morning guided tour of the beautiful Ragusa.

From St. John's cathedral, in Ragusa Superiore, you will descend towards the edge of the hill that overlooks Ragusa Ibla, passing the elegant Palazzi Bertini, Cosentini and La Rocca, with their elaborate balcony corbels. The walk continues downhill, with numerous flights of steps, towards the centre of Ibla. You will see more ornamented balconies and windows, as well as the sumptuously decorated churches of Idria, Purgatorio and St. Joseph, and the beautiful three-tiered façade of the Cathedral of S. Giorgio, to mention but a few of the magnificent buildings included in the itinerary. The walk ends in the public garden, il giardino Ibleo, with its palm avenue, small churches, and the splendid 15th century portal of the St. George cathedral.

Lunch at leisure (not included).

Proceed to Modica and visit to one of the famous chocolate factory.

Later, visit a historic winery in the Pachino area.

Before going back to your hotel, you won't miss an aperitif in Marzamemi, amazing fishing village.

### DAY 6 | RAGUSA · CALTAGIRONE · CATANIA · DEPARTURE

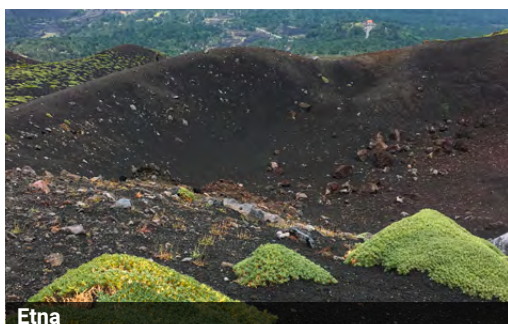
Last day of our trip, before heading to Catania let's visit Caltagirone, the city of ceramics.

After the 1693 earthquake, Caltagirone was rebuilt on the same site according to the then-architectural trends. Therefore, it became one of the most scenic and refined late-baroque centres in the island. We will have a walk among the narrow lanes of the historical centre in order to discover its most important religious and civil monuments. Furthermore, we will also visit small shops that belong to ceramist masters from "calatino". Their majolica pottery brings forward a millenary tradition.

Proceed to the airport and departure.



Savoca, the Godfather's bar



Etna



Catania

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## Accommodations

### ETNA AREA OR ACIREALE

- Hotel 5\* Monaci delle Terre Nere
- Hotel 4\* Baia Verde

### MODICA OR RAGUSA

- Hotel 5\* Relais Antica Badia - San Maurizio 1619
- Hotel 5\*L Eremo della Giubiliana

## Included features

- 5 Nights in charming 5 Star hotels with complimentary breakfast included
- Private guided tours as mentioned, including entrance fees
- Activities and tastings as mentioned
- Private driver at disposal, for selected excursions

## Not included

- Flights
- Meals and beverages (except where specified)
- Tips



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