



# Sicily: A Cultural Journey

12 days | 14 days with Taormina Region extension

In the midst of the Mediterranean, discover an island with personality all its own—full of flavor and teeming with one-of-a-kind art and architecture. From multicultural Palermo to breathtaking Taormina, each stop on this tour of Sicily reveals unexpected treasures.



## Your tour package includes

- 10 nights in handpicked hotels
- 10 breakfasts
- 4 dinners with beer or wine
- 1 wine tasting
- 1 food tasting
- 8 sightseeing tours
- Expert Tour Director & local guides
- Private deluxe motor coach

## Included highlights

- Cappella Palatina
- Monreale Cathedral
- Agrigento's Greek ruins
- Piazza Armerina
- Syracuse Cathedral
- Views of Mount Etna
- Ragusa
- Taormina's Greek theater

## Tour pace

On this guided tour, you'll walk for at least 1.5 hours daily across uneven terrain, including cobblestone streets and unpaved roads, at high altitudes.

## Group size

15–38

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## Overnight Flight → 1 night

### Day 1: Travel day

Board your overnight flight to Palermo today.

## Palermo → 3 nights

### Day 2: Arrival in Palermo

*Included meals: welcome dinner*

Welcome to Italy! Meet your Tour Director and fellow travelers at tonight's welcome dinner.

### Day 3: Sightseeing tour of Palermo & Monreale

*Included meals: breakfast*

This morning, embark on a guided tour of the bayside city of Palermo and the hilltop town of Monreale.

- Discover the city's Baroque architecture as you pass the Quattro Canti piazza in the historic center
- Step inside the Cappella Palatina to see the stunning mosaics and artwork
- Head to nearby Monreale and enter Monreale Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage site that combines Norman, Arab, and Byzantine architectural styles

### Day 4: Free day in Palermo

*Included meals: breakfast*

Enjoy a free day in Palermo or add an excursion.  
+ Ancient Ruins: Segesta & Erice

## Enna Region → 1 night

### Day 5: Enna Region via Agrigento

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

Travel south through the Sicilian countryside to Agrigento for a guided walking tour of the city's fascinating Greek ruins.  
Continue on to the Enna region and sit down for an included dinner.

## Syracuse → 4 nights

### Day 6: Syracuse via Piazza Armerina

*Included meals: breakfast, dinner*

On the way to Syracuse, stop for a guided tour of Piazza Armerina and view the stunning mosaics in Villa Romana del Casale, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Sit down for an included dinner this evening.

### Day 7: Sightseeing tour of Syracuse

*Included meals: breakfast*

Embark on a guided tour of Syracuse, a historic city known for its rich Greek history.

- Visit the Greek theater, the most complete ancient Greek theater still in existence
- Tour the massive Paradise Quarry and gardens, featuring the cave that Caravaggio dubbed "The Ear of Dionysius" for its unique acoustics
- Visit the Roman amphitheater, then cross a bridge to the Island of Ortygia to see the Temple of Apollo and Syracuse Cathedral

### Day 8: Free day in Syracuse

*Included meals: breakfast*

Enjoy a free day in Syracuse or add an excursion.  
+ Traditions of Sicily: Villa Lunch & Noto Village

### Day 9: Modica & sightseeing tour of Ragusa

*Included meals: breakfast, tasting, wine tasting*

Head out into the Sicilian countryside today.

- Make a stop in the city of Modica for a tasting at the oldest chocolate shop in Sicily
- Head to the hilltop town of Ragusa for a tour with a local guide
- Stroll through Ragusa Ibla, the UNESCO-protected old town, past Baroque-style palaces and churches
- Step inside a local shop for a tasting of Cerasuolo di Vittoria wine

## Taormina Region → 2 nights

### Day 10: Transfer to Taormina & sightseeing tour

*Included meals: breakfast*

Transfer to Taormina, where a local guide introduces you to this scenic town perched high above the sea.

- Enjoy views of Mount Etna, Taormina Cathedral, and Palazzo Corvaja, seat of the first Sicilian parliament
- Visit the town's 2nd-century Greek theater

Enjoy a free evening in the Taormina region or add an excursion.

+ Traditional Sicilian Dinner & Wine Tasting

### Day 11: Free day in the Taormina Region

*Included meals: breakfast, farewell dinner*

Enjoy a free day in the Taormina region or add an excursion.

This evening, celebrate your trip with your group during a farewell dinner.

+ Mount Etna: Sicily's Volcanic Landscapes

## Flight Home

### Day 12: Departure

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the Catania airport for your flight home or extend your stay in Taormina.

## + Taormina Region extension

"Picturesque" is the word that springs to mind when we think of the Taormina region's pretty piazzas and ocean vistas (although "jaw-dropping" and "mesmerizing" work, too). Extend your stay in Sicily to soak in more of this lovely locale with your Tour Director by your side.

## Taormina Region → 2 nights

### Day 12: Free day in the Taormina Region

*Included meals: breakfast*

Enjoy a free day in the Taormina region or add an excursion.

+ Hidden Sicily: Medieval Savoca & Forza d'Agrò

### Day 13: Free day in the Taormina Region

*Included meals: breakfast*

Spend a free day in the Taormina region or add an excursion.

This evening, enjoy a farewell drink as you celebrate your trip with your fellow group members.

+ Museo Storico dello Sbarco & Historic Catania

## Flight Home

**Day 14: Departure**

*Included meals: breakfast (excluding early morning departures)*

Transfer to the Catania airport for your flight home.

# Customize your experience

Customize your tour by adding excursion options. Excursions offered on the same day will occur at different times, so there's no need to choose. Save \$10 when you book your excursion up to three days before your tour departs.\* Excursions requiring advance reservation only list this discounted price. Call or go online to customize your tour: [goaheadtours.ca/SFS](https://goaheadtours.ca/SFS) | 1-800-754-5066

## Day 4: Ancient Ruins: Segesta & Erice

\$165CAD/\$175CAD\* (8 hours, departs in the morning)  
Journey to western Sicily to visit the ancient Greek ruins of Segesta. Here, you'll view a magnificent Doric temple and an ancient Greek theater with a local guide. The temple is one of the best preserved and most beautiful Greek archaeological sites in the Mediterranean. Next, visit the well-preserved village of Erice, perched on the summit of Monte San Giuliano. The relics within Erice are fascinating, from its Phoenician walls to its Norman castles. Your guided tour of the town will take you past the town's temple and churches, touching upon the role they played in Erice's history. You'll also try almond wine and pastries during a visit to one of the town's most famous shops.

## Day 8: Traditions of Sicily: Villa Lunch & Noto Village

\$175CAD/\$185CAD\* (8 hours, departs in the morning, lunch included)  
Start off the day in Noto, a quaint city at the foot of the Hyblaean Mountains. As you stroll along Corso Vittorio Emanuele a local guide will give you the lay of the land, highlighting the UNESCO-recognized cathedral and the city's Baroque-style architecture. Next, travel to a rustic villa, Casa Bianca, owned and run by a Sicilian contessa. With its warm climate, open fields, and fertile soil, Sicily is home to some of Italy's finest foods. Today's authentic family-style meal showcases many of the region's delicious and varied flavors. Please note: On some departures, the excursion may depart in the afternoon and include dinner instead of lunch.

## Day 10: Traditional Sicilian Dinner & Wine Tasting

\$149CAD/\$159CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the evening, dinner included)  
Venture into the foothills surrounding Mt. Etna for dinner and a wine tasting at a local vineyard. Like Sicily itself, Sicilian cuisine has been profoundly influenced by the myriad cultures that have made this island their home.

## Day 11: Mount Etna: Sicily's Volcanic Landscapes

\$129CAD/\$139CAD\* (7 hours, departs in the morning, lunch included)  
Travel from Taormina to the base of Mount Etna, Europe's largest and highest active volcano. Here, a local guide will board your bus and you'll ascend up to 5,000 feet, stopping at a scenic vantage point to snap photos and learn about the mountain's long history of eruptions, as well as its native flora and fauna. Continue up to 6,600 feet, where you'll have free time to walk among the volcanic craters and peruse the mountainside shops before sampling local delicacies at an included three-course lunch. Please note: Comfortable shoes and layered clothing are recommended. Temperatures on the mountain are cool in the summer and can be quite chilly the rest of the year.

## Extension excursion options

### Day 12: Hidden Sicily: Medieval Savoca & Forza d'Agrò

\$89CAD/\$99CAD\* (4 hours, departs in the morning)  
Delve into the traditional Sicilian villages that served as sets for Francis Ford Coppola's "The Godfather." First, visit Savoca and tour the Church of St. Lucia and the Bar Vitelli. Walk through this medieval village and marvel at its 15th-century buildings and panoramic views of the Mediterranean sea. Continue on to Forza d'Agrò, another "hidden" Sicilian village, where you'll visit the Church of the Annunciation. Please note: The order of villages visited is subject to change. In the event that the Church of the Annunciation is closed, it may only be viewed from the outside. Please note: the visit to Forza d'Agrò is weather dependent, due to safety.

### Day 13: Museo Storico dello Sbarco & Historic Catania

\$89CAD/\$99CAD\* (6 hours, departs in the morning)  
Explore Sicily's World War II history on a visit to the Museo Storico dello Sbarco, an interactive museum featuring striking photographs and a life-size model of a war-era bunker. Then, stroll past the Baroque architecture of Catania's historic center, a UNESCO World Heritage site. You'll see the bustling shops and cafes of Via Etnea and Via dei Crociferi, the grand Teatro Massimo Bellini and the historic Palazzo Biscari. End your tour at the beautiful Piazza del Duomo, home of the famous elephant statue, where you'll have free time for lunch.

\*Optional excursions may be purchased up to three days prior to departure or while on tour. Pre-purchased optional excursions cannot be canceled within three days prior to departure or while on tour. Select optional excursions require advance booking and cannot be purchased or canceled after the advanced reservation deadline. GAT accepts payment by cash, Visa or MasterCard for optional excursions purchased on tour. Additional fees may apply for optional excursions purchased on tour. Excursions require a minimum number of participants to operate. Details and prices are subject to change. Due to seasonal hours of operation and availability, some excursions may not operate. If this occurs, you will be refunded any payments made for that excursion post-tour. Learn more at [goaheadtours.ca/terms](https://goaheadtours.ca/terms)