



DRAFT v5

A Taste of Sicily and the Amalfi Coast Oct 8-18, 2023

Day 1 Sun, Oct 8

Depart U.S. for Catania, Sicily (CTA)

Oct 9-14 (5 nights)

Catania/Acitrezza

Castello San Marco

Day 2 Mon, Oct 9 Arrive in Sicily – tour begins

Mid-day arrival in Catania; transfer to hotel

4:00 free time to explore our castle-turned-
hotel and the waterfront

6:00 welcome reception

7:30 dinner

- Includes: airport transfer, reception, dinner, hotel

Day 3 Tues, Oct 10 Taormina

breakfast

9:15 depart for [Taormina](#) (40 mins)

10:00 walking tour of town and the Greek
amphitheater

12:00 lunch and afternoon at leisure

4:00 return to hotel

7:30 dinner on the sea

- Includes: breakfast, private transfer, walking tour, dinner, hotel

Day 4 Wed, Oct 11 Mt. Etna

breakfast

9:00 depart for Mt. Etna (55 mins)– see the
crater area/national park

1:30 visit an award-winning winery on the
slopes of Mt. Etna. Enjoy a wine-tasting
lunch and tour.

3:30 Return to hotel, evening at leisure

- Includes: breakfast, private driver and guided visit to Mt. Etna, wine-tasting lunch, hotel

Day 5 Thurs, Oct 12 day at leisure

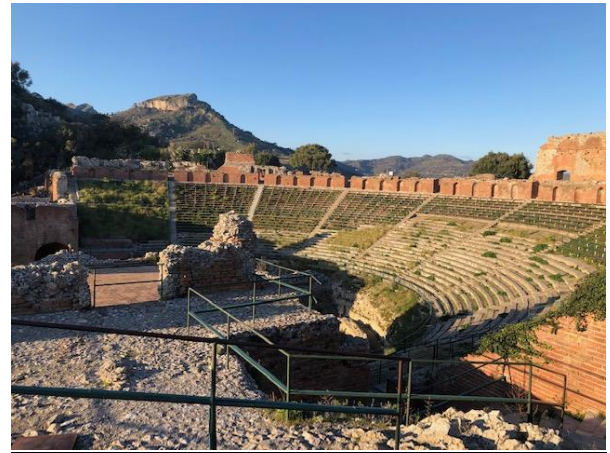
breakfast

Day at leisure: water sports, lounge on our
private beach, walk the waterfront

4:30 transfer to the marina for our private
sunset cruise along the cliffs and caves
below Taormina

8:00 dinner at the marina

- Includes: breakfast, private sunset cruise, dinner, hotel



Day 6 Fri, Oct 13 Valley of the Temples

breakfast

8:00 depart for [Valley of the Temples](#) (2.5
hrs) for private guided tour of the Greek
temples.

1:30 visit one of Sicily's best olive oil
producers for a tour, learn about the history
and varieties of olive oils and sample them
with lunch before we make our way back to
the castello.

Evening at leisure

- Includes: breakfast, driver, tour of the temples, olive oil experience and lunch, hotel

Oct 14-18 (4 nights)
Syracuse/Ortigia
[Hotel Algilà](#)

Day 8 Sat, Oct 14 Catania-Ortigia

breakfast

9:30 depart for [Catania](#) (40 mins)

Stop in the historic center to experience the buzz of the fish market, St. Agata Church and a tour through [Palazzo Biscari](#)

1:00 lunch, free time

4:00 continue on to the beautiful Baroque island of Ortigia, the historic center of Syracuse. Check in and get settled at our hotel on the waterfront.

7:30 dinner

- Includes: breakfast, transfer, tour of Catania, palace visit, dinner, hotel



Day 9 Sun, Oct 15 Marzamemi

breakfast

9:00 leave for the colorful town of [Marzamemi](#); morning at leisure to explore this darling beach town

4:00 depart for a traditional Sicilian cooking lesson and dinner

8:30 return to hotel

- Includes: breakfast, driver, private cooking lesson, dinner, hotel

Day 10 Mon Oct 16 Ortigia

breakfast; optional walk to morning market
10:30 we'll meet our guide in the lobby and get more acquainted with the rich history of Ortigia

1:00 afternoon, lunch at leisure; reserve a spot at a sun deck, sample some street food, wander the narrow streets and more

8:00 dinner

- Includes: breakfast, walking tour, dinner, hotel

Day 11 Tues, Oct 17 Sun and sea

breakfast

10:00 depart for private boat excursion along the Ionian coast

1:00 return to marina; afternoon at leisure

7:00 farewell dinner

- Includes: breakfast, private boat tour, dinner, hotel

Day 12 Sun, Oct 18

Depart for Catania airport (~60 mins) or transfer to Amalfi Coast

Special notes:

Culture: Italy is beautiful, rich in history and culture – and fairly unpredictable. Italians are lovely, generous people, but they don't necessarily run the "tight ship" we're used to. I will manage everything I can, and I expect that everything is set. But things do happen after a plan has been made! I encourage flexibility – and being open to the magic of serendipity. You will likely hear this more than once during your trip: "It's all part of the adventure!"

Activity level: this itinerary has a moderate activity level. There is walking each day – as much as you'd like, but some is required to see the sites. The Valley of Temples and Greek Theater in Taormina, for example, have uneven surfaces and no alternative transportation.

There are some ride options available throughout the itinerary (taxi, bus or private driver) per your preference and location.

