

Cultures & Flavours of Sicily

Palermo, Erice, Marsala, Pollina, Agrigento, Ragusa, Siracusa, Taormina

8 days / 7 nights

From
\$2259

Per person/Double Occupancy/Land package
For travel between April 1 and April 30, 2023/4* hotels

Sicily, the biggest island in the Mediterranean, is a melting pot of cultures, where Greek and Arab influences can be found in the architecture, in the ancient ruins from different civilizations and in the unique cuisine; a land where the earth spills fire from ancient volcanoes and the sun warms the emerald waters of the Mediterranean Sea. Sicily is not only a place of extraordinary monuments, enchantingly beautiful scenery, and beautiful towns, it is also a land that offers an incredible variety of excellent vintages, ancient cellars and vineyards, typical dishes and traditional foods rediscovered in their original style.

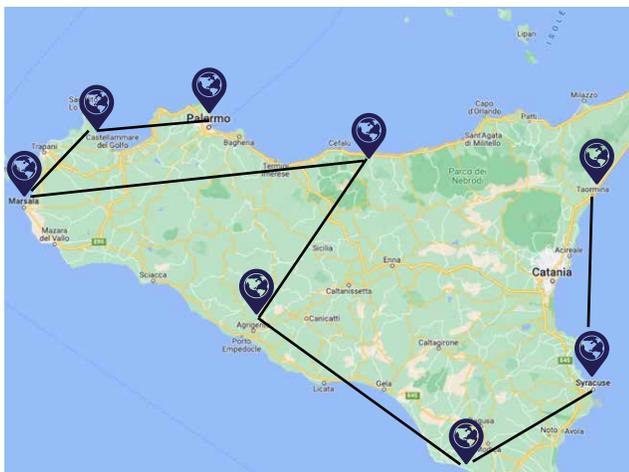


Slow Food Presidia and Other Recommended Products

Enjoy a unique chance of sampling several Slow Food Presidia products - high-quality, traditional foods and beverages at risk of "extinction" - and other local delicacies from Slow Food recommended quality producers

Highlights

The Manna, a natural sweetener with a very low glucose and fructose content, is obtained from a bluish resinous substance extracted from the bark of ash trees in the Madonie Mountains. When exposed to the sun, this substance solidifies into manna. The collection technique is very ancient and has survived only in this small corner of the Mediterranean. The purest is the manna eletta, which runs down in "stalactites" without touching the bark.



Cultures & Flavours of Sicily - 8 days / 7 nights



Typical Restaurants from the “Osterie D’Italia” Slow Food Guide

Taste the delicious, authentic dishes of the regional cuisine eating at restaurants selected among those recommended by Slow Food in the “Osterie d’Italia” guide, small “trattorie” that still use fresh, local produce and traditional recipes for their dishes.

Wineries and More

Sample wines and/or local typical products at wineries, bakeries, pastry shops, fresh produce markets and more.

Points of Interest: Art, History, Culture & Nature

- Palermo, the majestic Sicilian regional capital, with its ancient theatres and public buildings, the characteristic streets, and the Capo market
- Erice, a magnificent medieval city in a spectacular setting
- Agrigento, with the amazing Valley of the Temples, testament to the ancient Greek civilization in Sicily
- Ragusa Ibla, a UNESCO World Heritage site in recognition of its Sicilian style baroque architecture
- Syracuse, one of the most important and strategic political centers in ancient Greece, with the archaeological park and the ancient heart of the old city – Ortigia Island
- Taormina, the small-town home to the oldest cinema festival in the world, with its elegant streets and wonderful views of the emerald sea.

Day 1: Sicily/Palermo arrival

Arrive in Palermo and check-in to your hotel. Time to settle in, welcome dinner and overnight stay. (D)

Overnight in Palermo

Day 2: Marsala, Erice

Departure for Marsala, the city renowned for its production of wine of the same name. Visit a winery in Rilievo (Trapani) and taste their wine.

Free time to stroll through the centre of the old town. Lunch in a typical local restaurant. We suggest you proceed to Erice, a magnificent medieval city in a spectacular setting. Walk through the streets of the town center and visit the Pasticceria Maria Grammatico, an old pastry shop that offers recipes from the Antico Convento. Try some of the local delights such as almond pastries filled with candied lemon, Cannoli, Zibbibo (local wine) and the famous “brutti ma buoni” (“ugly but tasty”) biscuits. Return to the hotel and overnight stay. (BB, T, L)

Overnight in Palermo



Cultures & Flavours of Sicily - 8 days / 7 nights



Day 3: Pollina, Palermo

Morning departure for Pollina to visit a farmhouse. After lunch visit the farm and hear the extraordinary story of how the ancient pastries and desserts were prepared with the Manna (Slow Food Presidium), accompanied by some samples. Back to Palermo and free time to stroll around the streets in the centre of the city. We suggest you try the pastries at the Pasticceria Scimone, one of the oldest in the city that sells the famous cannoli, babà and lots more, and a visit to the Bottega dei Sapori and the Saperi della Legalità di Libera shop that sells the produce cultivated on lands confiscated from the Mafia, such as legumes, preserves and wines. Overnight stay. (BB, L, T)

Overnight in Palermo

Day 4: Agrigento, Syracuse

Departure for Agrigento for a visit of the old city. Lunch at a typical restaurant downtown. In the afternoon enjoy a guided tour of the amazing Valley of the Temples, testament to the ancient Greek civilization in Sicily. Departure to the Syracuse area and overnight stay. (BB, L)

Overnight in Syracuse



Day 5: Ragusa, Modica, Syracuse

We suggest a departure to Ragusa to visit the city built in a region that has been declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in recognition of its Sicilian style baroque architecture. The city is divided into two parts: the old city (called Ibla) and the new city. Proceed to Modica, the ancient capital of the county, full of amazing examples of architecture that pay homage to the old Sicilian baroque style. Visit and tasting at the old pastry famous for chocolate. Departure for Syracuse and dinner in the historical town center of Ortigia to try some traditional dishes and local wines in a typical local restaurant. Overnight stay. (BB, T, D).

Overnight in Syracuse

Day 6: Syracuse, Mount Etna, Taormina

Explore the city, one of the most important and strategic political centers in ancient Greece; visit the archaeological park and walk around the heart of the old city – Ortigia. Departure for Taormina, stopping on route to visit a vineyard where prestigious wines are produced, a real find in terms of wines from Etna. There will be a tasting accompanied by local produce. Spend the night in Taormina. (BB, T)

Overnight in Taormina

Cultures & Flavours of Sicily - 8 days / 7 nights



Day 7: Taormina

In the morning, enjoy a guided tour to discover Taormina, the small medieval village called “the pearl of the Ionian Sea” and visit to the Roman - Greek theatre. Time at leisure for lunch, shopping and walking through the tiny streets. Overnight stay. (BB)

Overnight in Taormina

Day 8: Departure

Your experience comes to an end. Check out from the hotel. (BB)

Meal legend:

BB=Buffet Breakfast, L=Lunch, LL= light lunch, D=Dinner, T=Tasting

Hotels or similar:

Quintocanto Hotel & Spa 4*, Palermo

Grande Albergo Alfeo 4*, Syracuse

Hotel Excelsior Palace 4*, Taormina

The Package Includes:

- 7 nights accommodation in 4* charming hotels and/or historical residences (3 Palermo, 2 Syracuse, 2 Taormina)
- 7 Continental buffet breakfasts
- 4 meals based on traditional regional dishes:
 - 1 welcome dinner
 - 2 lunches and 1 dinner at “Osterie d’Italia” typical Slow Food restaurants
- 4 guided tastings of Slow Food wines and/or Presidia products from the Sicily region
- 1 private guided tour (2 hours) of Valley of the Temples Archaeological Park, Agrigento
- 1 private guided tour (2 hours) of Taormina
- Entrance fee to:
 - The Valley of the Temples Archaeological Park, Agrigento
 - Greek theatre, Taormina

The Package Does Not Include:

- Any flights
- Car Rental
- Transfers airport-hotel-airport
- Hotel tax payable at hotel, 4euro per person per night
- Gratuities
- Entrance fees to monuments, museums, etc
- Meals not included, and beverages

Land package 8 days / 7 nights, per person in CAD

2023	April 01-30, 2023	May 01 – October 31, 2023
Double Occupancy	\$2,259	\$2,469
Single room supplement	On request	

Prices do not include the contribution to the travel agency customer compensation fund of \$3.50 per \$1000 for Quebec travel agencies. This amount will be automatically added to your invoice. Rates were issued at press time and can change at any time due to exchange rates, new promotions, or fuel surcharges. Prices advertised on our site are valid if you purchase services during the same session. If you log out of our site, the prices may be different the next time you log in. Quebec permit holder #703430