



## ITALY

# SELF-DRIVE SICILY (TOUR CODE: 11588)

### STARTS AND ENDS

Palermo to  
Taormina

### TRAVEL PERIODS

1st Apr 23 - 31st Oct 23

### EXPERIENCE

Food & Wine  
Self-Drive

### TRAVEL STYLE

Independent Holiday Packages

Sicily, a region of archaeological wonders, marvelous baroque towns and rich, ancient traditions but also a land that offers an incredible variety of vineyards, typical dishes and traditional foods.

## Highlights

- Stay at 4\* charming hotels
- Experience the Slow Food Restaurants
- Visit the Valley of the Temples Archaeological Park
- Unveil the narrow streets of Taormina
- Visit the Greek Theatre
- Taste some local wines

Tour participants will 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.

You will not only discover delightful food and wines but also the most interesting monuments, works of art, churches and natural landscapes of the region: Palermo, the majestic Sicilian regional capital; 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, with the archaeological park and the ancient heart of the old city –Ortigia Island, and ,Taormina, the small town home of the oldest cinema festival in the world, with its elegant streets and wonderful views of the emerald sea.



- ✓ ENTIRE Cooling-Off Period
- ✓ ENTIRE Change of Mind
- ✓ ENTIRE On Ground Support
- ✓ ENTIRE AUD Prices
- ✓ ENTIRE Industry Accredited
- ✓ ENTIRE Australian Owned

## INCLUSIONS

- 3 nights in Palermo at 4\* Quintocanto Hotel or Similar
- 2 nights in Syracuse at 4\*Grande Albergo Alfeo or Similar
- 2 nights in Taormina at 4\* Grand Hotel Excelsior or Similar
- Car Hire Credit of \$700
- Daily Breakfast Buffet
- Welcome dinner
- Lunch in a typical local restaurant in Trapani
- Lunch in a farmhouse in Pollina
- Dinner at "Osterie d'Italia" in Ortigia
- Private Guided tour of Valley of the Temples in Agrigento
- Private Guided tour of Taormina
- 4 Guided tastings of Slow Food wines

## ITINERARY

Day **1**

### Palermo

Arrival to your hotel in Palermo. Time to settle in, and welcome dinner in a typical local restaurant.

Overnight stay in **Palermo** at **4\* Quintocanto hotel** or Similar.

Dinner



Day **2**

## Palermo Marsala Erice Palermo

Departure for Marsala, the city renowned for its production of the wine of the same name. Visit the winery in Rilievo (Trapani), for tasting the wines. For an experience that will change your concept of wine tourism. Free time to stroll through the centre of the old town. Lunch in a typical local restaurant in Rilievo. Enjoy the afternoon by proceeding to Erice, a magnificent medieval city in a spectacular setting. Walk through the streets of the center of the town and visit some local shops, then return to the hotel in Palermo.

Overnight stay in **Palermo** at **4\* Quintocanto hotel** or Similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day **3**

## Palermo Pollina Palermo

Morning departure for Pollina to visit a farmhouse and have lunch there. After having had 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. The Manna is a natural sweetener with a very low glucose and fructose content and it is obtained from a bluish resinous substance extracted from the bark of ash trees in the Madonie Mountains. The collection technique is very ancient, and has survived only in this small corner of the Mediterranean. Back to Palermo and free time to stroll around the streets in the centre of the city.

Overnight stay in **Palermo** at 4\* **Quintocanto hotel** or Similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day 4

Palermo Agrigento Syracuse

Departure for Agrigento and visit the old city. Lunch at the typical restaurant in the downtown. In the afternoon, take a guided tour of the amazing Valley of the Temples, testament to the ancient Greek civilization in Sicily. Departure for the hotel in Syracuse area.

Overnight stay in Syracuse at **Grande Albergo Alfeo** or Similar.

Breakfast, Lunch



Day 5

Syracuse Rausa Modica Syracuse

Departure for Ragusa to visit the city in your own time. 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 which once again is full of amazing examples of architecture that pay homage to the old Sicilian baroque style, where you will have a visit and tasting at the old pastry famous for chocolate. Return to Syracuse and have a dinner –in the historical town centre of Ortigia –of some traditional dishes and local wines in a typical local restaurant.

Overnight stay in Syracuse at **Grande Albergo Alfeo** or Similar.

Breakfast, Dinner



## Day 6 Syracuse Mount Etna Taormina

In the morning, free time to explore on foot the old town of Ortigia. Then, depart to Taormina, stopping en-route to visit of winery, where prestigious wines are produced, a real find in terms of wines from Etna. There will be a tasting accompanied by local produce.

Overnight stay in Taormina at **4\* Grand Hotel Excelsior** or Similar.

Breakfast



Day 7

## Taormina

In the morning, 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 walk through the narrow streets.

Overnight stay in **Taormina** at **4\* Grand Hotel Excelsior** or Similar.

Breakfast



Day 8

## Taormina

After breakfast, ends of the tour.

Breakfast

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## ACCOMMODATION

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### Hotel Quintocanto

#### Palermo

The Quintocanto is located in the heart of the historic centre of Palermo, in the Quattrocanti, surrounded by the most fascinating architectural beauties of the city. Reaching the hotel will be easy for those who travel on foot or by public transport, and also for those who prefer to move by car. In fact, for all hotel guests access to the ZTL is free on check-in and check-out days, showing the reservation. The Quintocanto Restaurant and SPA can be easily reached by walking along the Corso Vittorio Emanuele lounge, closed to traffic, or by public transport.



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### Excelsior Palace Hotel Taormina

#### Taormina

Located on a suggestive headland, along the walls and the Torrione dei Greci, few steps away from Porta Catania and the **historic centre of Taormina**, the Excelsior Palace Hotel stands out for its incomparable location. From here you can admire a unique natural spectacle: a panoramic view embracing the center of Taormina, the sea and **Mount Etna**. Genuine hospitality and a warm welcome, combined with a unique elegance and culture make this **historic 4-star hotel in Taormina center** one of the most attractive in all of Sicily.



## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

### LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

- **FLEXI CAR HIRE CREDIT:** This self-drive package includes a \$700 (\$100/day) Flexi Car Hire Credit. This provides the flexibility of selecting a vehicle based on your own preferences and requirements. As each location has vehicle limitations, please speak to our team for options.
- We work with a selection of hotels in each location. All bookings are subject to availability, which means our team will confirm your specific hotels upon confirmation and payment of deposit. The package price is based on 4-star accommodation.

Blackout dates may apply during festive season.