



ITALY

SICILY BY TRAIN (TOUR CODE: 12955)

STARTS AND ENDS

Taormina to
Palermo

TRAVEL PERIODS

21 Apr 24 - 27 Oct 24

EXPERIENCE

Escorted
Rail

TRAVEL STYLE

Escorted Group Tour

Be prepared for an amazing journey: explore Taormina's historic sites and Mount Etna's breathtaking views. Enjoy food and wine tasting. Visit Syracuse and charming Ortigia. Marvel at Sicilian Baroque in Ragusa, Modica, and Noto. Explore Agrigento's Temples' Valley. Conclude in Palermo with Teatro Massimo and Monreale Cathedral. Experience Cefalù's picturesque charm.

Highlights

- Small group sizes (max 20 passengers). Professional English speaking guide for the entire duration of the tour
- Worry-free luggage **portage service at railway stations** and/or "luggage bus" (that delivers luggage from hotel to hotel)
- Explore **Mount Etna**, the highest peak in Sicily and the most active volcano in Europe
- Visit the historic center of **Ragusa, Modica, and Noto, all UNESCO World Heritage sites**, known for their baroque churches and palaces

Here with Meet and Greet Italy, embark on an enchanting journey through Sicily. Start in Taormina, explore its sites and marvel at Mount Etna, Europe's most active volcano. Traverse scenic routes aboard the Circumetnea train. Enjoy food and wine tasting at a local winery. Take a scenic train to Syracuse, known for its rich history. Explore the Archaeological Park and visit Ortigia's charming streets and cathedral. Explore the cities of Ragusa, Modica, and Noto, renowned for Sicilian Baroque. Marvel at sumptuous palaces and ornate balconies. Visit Agrigento's Temples' Valley, a UNESCO site. Discover well-preserved ancient temples. Conclude in Palermo, with Teatro Massimo and Monreale Cathedral. Then, enjoy a day in picturesque Cefalù



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

INCLUSIONS

- 7-nights accommodation in 4-star hotels
- Train transfers in First class
- Luxury air-conditioned coach on route (not covered by railway)
- Meals: 7 breakfasts, 1 dinner, 2 lunches
- Professional English speaking guide for the entire duration of the tour
- Guided visits in Taormina/Letojanni, Siracusa, Ragusa, Agrigento, Palermo

ITINERARY

Intro Map



Day **1**

Taormina

Upon arrival, make your way to your hotel in Letojanni, check-in and take your time to settle. In the afternoon meet your group and the tour leader. After an introductory briefing, reach Taormina and enjoy a guided walking tour of one of the most popular tourist destinations in Sicily. Admire its natural terrace overlooking the sea dominated by the majestic volcano Mount Etna and visit the Greek-Romans Theater. Back to your hotel partake a welcome dinner.

Overnight stay in **Taormina** at Hotel Albatross in a Standard Room.



Day 2 Mount Etna

Today you will discover the Mt. Etna, the highest peak of Sicily and the most active volcano in Europe. After breakfast walk along the beach to Letojanni train station and reach the village of Giarre where you're going to get on the Circumetnea train an historic railway inaugurated in 1898 which travels around the volcano passing through many villages, offering to its travelers' picturesque glimpses of this unique view. The excursion will continue by bus to reach "Silvestri Craters" (about 1.900 mt). Enjoy food and wine tasting in a local winery and have the option to reach higher peaks by jeep. Return to hotel in Letojanni.

Overnight stay in **Taormina** at Hotel Albatross in a Standard Room.



Day 3 Siracusa & Ortigia

Today you will admire the coast and the sea from your train window travelling from Taormina to Syracuse, one of the most

interesting sites on the island. A guide will lead you to the discovery of the Archaeological Park, famous for its Roman amphitheater, the Greek theater, and the ear of Dionysus. Continue your visit by going to the island of Ortigia, the oldest part of the city, characteristic for its narrow alleys, for its sea views and for the wonderful square with its splendid cathedral. In the afternoon continue the journey by bus and reach your next destination, Ragusa.

Overnight stay in **Ragusa** at Hotel Mediterraneo Palace in a Standard Room.



Day **4**

Sicilian Baroque

A full day to discover the less known part of Sicily, dominated by the sumptuous and majestic Baroque style of the buildings, characterized by the numerous UNESCO sites, also known for the television series "Il Commissario Montalbano". Start your visit from the historic center of the city of Ragusa, "Ibla", the aristocratic city of Val di Noto, characterized by the numerous baroque churches and palaces, as well as by the characteristic domes that dominate the city. Continue to Modica, a UNESCO World Heritage city especially known for its chocolate as well as for its wonderful buildings. Last stop will be Noto, the capital of late Sicilian Baroque. Cross the famous Arco, stroll in the center admiring the wonderful aristocratic palaces with the famous decorated balconies, the sumptuous churches full of decorations, the cathedral with its staircase, and the city theater, all built in Baroque style. Return to the hotel in Ragusa for overnight.

Overnight stay in **Ragusa** at Hotel Mediterraneo Palace in a Standard Room.

Day **5**

Agrigento

After breakfast departure by bus for Agrigento. Arriving in Agrigento enjoy a lunch overlooking the Temple Valley. After lunch, meet the guide who will reveal all the secrets of the Temples' Valley, including the Temple of Juno, the Temple of Concorde (one of the best preserved Doric temples in the whole Greek world), the Temple of Hercules, the Temple of Castor and Pollux. At the end of the visit we will have lunch all together; afterward, reach Agrigento Centrale Train Station and embark on an extraordinary train journey through the Sicilian countryside to reach Palermo. Upon arrival in Palermo transfer to the hotel and check in.

Overnight stay in **Palermo** at Hotel NH Palermo in a Standard Room.



Day 6

Palermo & Monreale

Full day dedicated to the discovery of Palermo: in the morning a walking tour of the city center, starting from Teatro Massimo continue the walk through the famous “u Capo” local market and taste some Sicilian specialties as Arancina or drink the famous “AUTISTA”, an “explosive” lemonade. Continue to the Cathedral and walk to “I Quattro canti”. After some free time for lunch take the local bus to Monreale, a lovely town on the slopes of Monte Caputo overlooking Palermo. Walk with your guide to Monreale Cathedral, considered one of the finest Norman constructions in the world.

Overnight stay in **Palermo** at Hotel NH Palermo in a Standard Room.



Day 7

Cefalù

Today, with your tour leader, reach Cefalù by train in half an hour. Cefalù is a beautiful medieval fishers' village, at the slopes of a promontory, hosts as well as Unesco World Heritage site, the Arabic-Norman Cathedral, that looks like a fortress. You will have the whole day at your disposal to relax on the beach, do shopping or hike up La Rocca! Back to Palermo by regional train, enjoy your last night in Sicily!

Overnight stay in **Palermo** at Hotel NH Palermo in a Standard Room.



Day **8**

End of the Tour

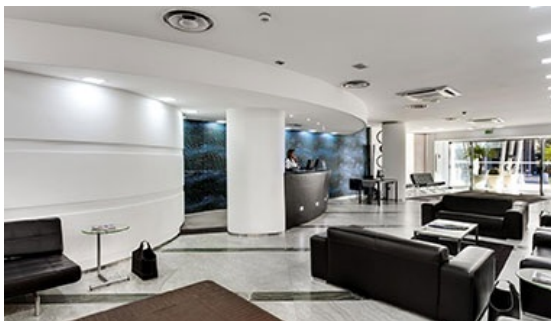
After breakfast, our trip to the discovery of the Italian beauties comes to an end, hoping you always keep this unique experience in your heart. Feel free to book some extra nights in Sicily or a private transfer to Palermo's airport.

ACCOMMODATION

Mediterraneo Palace Hotel

Ragusa

Mediterraneo Palace Hotel is a modern and elegant 4-star property located in the historic centre of Ragusa close to the town's major attractions, such as Piazza Libertà, Corso Italia and the imposing Cathedral of San Giovanni Battista. All rooms are bright, spacious and equipped with every comfort.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

Italian

LOCAL CURRENCY

EURO

- This trip can be enjoyed by just about anyone with a reasonable level of fitness. Average physical ability is required such as long walks of a few hours

Excluded

- International airfares and taxes
- Domestic airfares and taxes, unless otherwise specified in our holiday package
- Visa expenses, processing and issuance fees
- Meals other than as specified in our holiday package
- Travel Insurance or expenses of a personal nature (mini-bar, phone call, laundry, etc.),
- Tips or gratuities to guides, drivers, porters, hotel, restaurant or boat staff, etc.
- Or any other travel expense that has not been included in our holiday package