

Tour Description & Itinerary



Spring in SICILY – ITALY 2015 – April 8-18

A Cultural & Gastronomic Adventure!

Boutique tour – Leisurely paced – Small group: 10-16 travelers – Experience the best of Sicily, Italy’s exotic Mediterranean jewel, stress free – Leave the details to us and enjoy the ride!

This trip includes:

- A tour around all of Sicily, Italy’s largest island and region (a total land mass of approx 18,000 sq mi).
- 10-night stay in a variety of hand-picked, high-quality accommodations around Italy’s largest island; excellent amenities; most with on-site spas; daily breakfasts included.
- Excursions to Taormina, Catania, Mt. Etna, Siracusa, Noto, Marzamemi, Modica, Ragusa Ibla, Piazza Armerina, Aidone, Agrigento, Palermo, Cefalù and Santo Stefano di Camastra.
- All related excursion expenses, including guided walking tours (in English) of historical city centers and admission to all visited sights, museums, nature preserves.
- Private luxury transport and all related expenses to and from lodgings, excursions and visits, including our own dedicated driver and coach style bus.
- A very well-crafted itinerary that allows us to cover an immense expanse of land (offering amazing views of Sicily’s natural beauty) with most legs of the trip under 1/1.5 hours.
- Gastro Tastings & Tours (wine, chocolate, cheese, pastry).
- Delicious group meals featuring regional specialties traditionally prepared using local, in-season food sources.
- Restaurant gratuities, local sales tax, municipal hotel tax.
- Comfort – convenience – flexibility – plenty of free time.
- Informal conversational Italian instruction.
- Jodina’s travel guide, “Best Travel Tips & Suggestions”.
- Accompaniment of a multi-lingual (English, Italian, Spanish, French) tour director trained in first aid & CPR.



- Option to stay additional nights at Catania hotel location preceding/following the tour at a special discounted price.
- Option to enroll, for group courses or individual private lessons, preceding/following the tour at an Italian language school in Catania at discounted fees exclusive to tour participants.

Not included: • Airfare • Transfer to/from Catania airport to hotel (fixed cab fare: €20) • Some meals (See tour itinerary) • Optional gratuities: tour guides (€1-2/half day, €3-5/full day), driver (€2-3/day), chambermaids (€1-2/day) .

COST: 11 days/10 nights – April 8-18, 2015 – \$3,350 per person (double occupancy), Single-Room Occupancy Supplement: \$400. Don't have a travel partner and would like to share a room? Let us know – we may be able to match you with a roommate.

How does this trip compare price-wise to similar tours? It's very, very reasonable... have a look: [Pricing Notes & Comparisons](#)



Sicily Facts / Outstanding Trip Characteristics:

If you're someone who likes a more leisurely approach to travel – the chance to really get a feel for the place you're staying and savor the best it has to offer – the people, the culture, the land, the food, the wine – this is a trip for you!

This boutique tour offers a more intimate and immersive way to travel. Join a small group of fellow Italy enthusiasts and tour exotic Sicily, Italy's Mediterranean jewel, largest island, and home to the country's greatest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Comfort, ease and convenience: Forget your cares at home, and leave the details to us. Enjoy a variety of well-appointed, high-quality lodgings and delicious cuisine on an unforgettable tour around sunny Sicily.

This is a worry-free vacation with flexibility built in – you'll have plenty of personal time for exploring the places we visit -- for strolling, shopping, eating, and having another gelato or espresso – all against the stunning backdrop of the Mediterranean Sea; Mt. Etna; ancient baroque/Greek/Norman/Moorish/Roman/byzantine architecture, art and ruins; the timeless scent of citrus groves carried on island breezes.

- TRAVEL ITINERARY -

Day 1 | Wed 8 April – CATANIA {3 nights}

Arrive in Catania • Check into beautiful 4-star [Hotel Principe](#) in the heart of the city's historical baroque downtown • Settle in/rest/stroll around and take in the sights and sounds of this vibrant quarter • Group welcome dinner and orientation in the evening • [Night in Catania] • Meals: D



Day 2 | Thurs 9 April – CATANIA → TAORMINA → CATANIA

[40 min / 40 min / 65 tot mi] • Depart Catania for Taormina • Morning guided walking tour of this gorgeous, chic seaside town • Group lunch in a typical Sicilian trattoria • Afternoon free to roam/shop/explore • Return to our lodgings and evening free in Catania • [Night in Catania] • Meals: B-L

Day 3 | Fri 10 April – CATANIA → MT. ETNA → CATANIA [60 min / 60 min / 100 tot mi]

Visit to Catania's colorful old fish-market • Depart for Mt. Etna, Europe's largest and still-active volcano • Visit the Silvestri Craters • Delicious lunch and wine-tasting at a vineyard and cantina near Mt. Etna • Visit Catania's Benedictine Monastery • Guided walking tour of the city's historical center • Free evening in Catania • [Night in Catania] • Meals: B-L

Day 4 | Sat 11 April – CATANIA → SIRACUSA {2 nights} [50 min / 40 mi]

Depart Catania for Siracusa • Visit Ciane Nature Reserve and take an idyllic boat ride along dreamy Ciane River • Guided walking tour of Neapolis Archaeological Park • Arrive at Ortigia (cultural and historical heart of Siracusa) for a group lunch in a typical Sicilian restaurant • Guided walking tour of Ortigia • Check into 4-star [Hotel Livingston](#) located directly on the coastline • Remainder of afternoon and evening free to explore and have dinner on your own • [night in Siracusa] • Meals: B-L

Day 5 | Sun 12 April – SIRACUSA → NOTO → VENDICARI → MARZAMEMI → SIRACUSA

[20 min/10 min/10 min/30 min / 68 tot mi] • Depart Siracusa for Noto, a small town noted for its stunning baroque cathedral and surrounding structures • Walking tour of Noto • Visit Venidicari Nature Reserve • On to the quaint old fishing village of Marzamemi Lunch at your leisure • Visit to a Tonnara, an age-old traditional tuna processing facility • Free time • Return to Siracusa • Evening group meal • [night in Siracusa] • Meals: B-D



Day 6 | Mon 13 April – SIRACUSA → MODICA → RAGUSA IBLA → PIAZZA ARMERINA {1 night}

[50 min / 15min / 70 min / 108 tot mi] • Depart Siracusa for Modica • Guided visit of the old city • Tour & tasting: Bonajuto pastry and chocolate factory • Free time • Group lunch in a typical Sicilian restaurant • Guided walking tour of the old town of Ragusa Ibla, including a visit to the filming location of Inspector Montalbano • Free time in Ragusa Ibla • Depart for the medieval town of Piazza Armerina where we'll spend a relaxing evening dining and lodging in the country at [Torre di Renda](#) • Group dinner • [Night in Piazza Armerina] Meals: B-L-D

Day 7 | Tues 14 April – PIAZZA ARMERINA → AIDONE → AGRIGENTO {1 night} [10 min/80 min/

62 tot mi] • Guided tour of Villa Romana del Casale, renowned for its exquisite and extensive mosaic collection • On to Aidone and a visit to Morganitna Museum, which houses the famous Venus of Morgantina • Artisan cheese factory tour & tasting • Free time and lunch at your leisure • On to Agrigento to check into the tranquil and elegant Grand Hotel Mosé • Group dinner in hotel • [Night in Agrigento] Meals: B-D

Day 8 | Wed 15 April – AGRIGENTO → PALERMO {2 nights} [90 min / 80 mi]

Morning guided tour of Valley of the Temples archeological park in Agrigento • Lunch on your own and free time to explore the historic downtown of Agrigento • Head to Palermo; check into

the splendid and superbly located 4-star [Quintocanto Hotel & Spa](#) • Group dinner • [Night in Palermo] • Meals: B-D

Day 9 | Thurs 16 April – PALERMO & MONREALE

Today is dedicated to Palermo: Morning guided visit of Monreale Cathedral and cloisters • Guided walking tour of the historical city center • Tour & tasting: traditional pastry factory • Afternoon free • Lunch at your leisure • Group dinner in the evening • [Night in Palermo] • Meals: B-D

Day 10 | Fri 17 April – PALERMO → CEFALÙ → SANTO STEFANO DI CAMASTRA → CATANIA

[60 min - 44 mi / 30 min - 22 mi / 1 hr 50min – 87 mi] • Depart Palermo for Cefalù • Guided walking tour of the historic city center • Visit to Santo Stefano di Camastra, a locale best known for its many ceramic workshops and factories • Time to stroll, shop and lunch on your own • Return to Catania • Group celebration dinner in evening • [Night in Catania] • Meals: B-D



Day 11 | Sat 18 April – CATANIA

Breakfast in hotel + departure. Grazie e arrivederci Sicilia!

➔ **For Full Lodging Details, FAQs & a Slide Show, visit : www.ItalianoWithJodna.com** ←

Email: info@ItalianoWithJodna.com. Call (760) 201-7594.

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I love this trip! How do I sign up?

- **Trip cost:** \$3,350 per person, double occupancy. Single room supplement: \$400. (Costs based on Euro and could change due to market fluctuations.)
- **Deposit to hold spot: \$1,000, due by Jan 15, 2015**
- **Payment options: [Online via credit card or PayPal](#), or by check ➔ [Pay by check and SAVE \\$100.00](#)**
- **Balance due: => Feb 25, 2015 <=**
- **NOTES:**
 - Tour size limited to 10-16 travelers | Availability on a first-come-first-served basis.
 - **Hold your spot** : Send in your deposit & completed Tour Enrollment Form.
 - **Form** available by email or regular mail, on request. Email: info@ItalianoWithJodna.com, Tel. 760-201-7594.
 - [ASK Questions, SIGN UP ONLINE and/or REQUEST a TOUR ENROLLMENT FORM.](#)