

# Self-Drive Tour Sicily 2020





## Day 1 - Arrival

Arrival at Catania Airport. Take over your reserved car (price not included, to be booked directly to clients) at the car rental office. Start the journey in direction Taormina.

Free time at disposal. Overnight in Taormina area, 4\* Hotel.





## Day 2 – Syracuse



Syracuse with its white limestone, surrounded by the warm Mediterranean Sea offers a lot to see: the historical centre with the famous cathedral, built in the Greek Athena-temple, the Papyrus plants in the Arethusa fountain, the narrow alleys of the former Arab quarter, the colourful daily market, the archaeological park and the Euryalos castle. We suggest you a nice fish-based dinner in a restaurant on the harbour side of Ortigia, the historical centre of Syracuse. Overnight in Syracuse, 4\* Hotel.



## Day 3 – Piazza Armerina – Agrigento

Today you cross the hills of central Sicily. An interesting town with a medieval centre is Piazza Armerina, where we suggest to visit the excavations of a Roman Villa of the late Imperial period with a really marvellous mosaic pavement. Continuing to the south coast of the island, you reach Agrigento. It is famous for its “Valley of the temples” (UNESCO World Heritage), where you can visit the remains of several temples of the Greek period and among them the best conserved one, the Concordia temple. Far more evocative is to see the temples in the evening when they are illuminated and the modern surroundings vanish. Overnight in Agrigento, 4\* Hotel.





## Day 4 – Western Sicily

Leave Agrigento driving along the south coast. For lovers of archaeology Selinunte is a must: Europe's largest archaeological park offers ruins of numerous temples as well as the remains of the former acropolis. For those who prefer modern art: have a stop in Gibellina, one of 14 villages destroyed by the earthquake of 1968 and rebuilt with the help of international artists. You reach again the sea near Castellammare and drive along the north coast to the area of Palermo for the next 2 overnights, in 4\* Hotel.





## Day 5 – Palermo

The whole day is dedicated to the visit of Palermo and Monreale. The major sites of Palermo are of the Norman-Byzantine period: Cathedral and Benedictine cloister of Monreale, the Norman Palace with the Palatine Chapel, Cathedral of Palermo with the grave of Emperor Frederick II. To complete your impressions, walk through one of the colourful street markets that remind us that North Africa is “behind the corner”. Another peculiar place to visit are the catacombs of the Capuchin monastery that conserve more than 5.000 mummified bodies of Sicilian priests, monks and noble people of the 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century.





## Day 6 – Cefalù – Messina



Today you drive along the Tyrrhenian Sea back to eastern Sicily. You shouldn't miss the little town of Cefalù with its fishermen's harbour and impressive Norman cathedral. Further along the road you cross one of the major places of Sicily for production of ceramics and pottery: Santo Stefano di Camastra. And finally Messina, once the gateway to Sicily situated in a marvellous position on the street of Messina where according to legend Ulysses fought the monsters Scylla and Charybdis. Overnight in the area of Taormina or Catania, 4\* Hotel.

## Day 7 – Mount Etna



Today you will discover Europe's highest active volcano: Mt. Etna. The most direct way is to climb up the east slopes through vineyards and citrus groves, chestnut woods and bizarre lava landscapes until you reach the station "rifugio Sapienza" at 1.900 m.a.s.l. Here you can see the lava streams that during the eruption 2001 destroyed the cable car and part of the bus station. If weather conditions permit, it is possible to take an optional ride with the recently rebuilt cable car and 4-wheel-driven minibuses until a height of ca. 2.800 mts right underneath the smoking summit craters. On the way down, have a stop in Zafferana Etnea. The little town is the centre of Sicilian honey production: chestnut honey is excellent with pecorino cheese, eucalyptus honey helps in case of cold, the choice is large – just try! Return to your hotel, overnight, 4\* Hotel.



## Day 8 - Departure

Relax in the morning, and according to your flight schedule drive to the airport, deliver your car at the car rental desk and **ARRIVEDERCI IN SICLIA!!**





**Season/price applied as per PERIOD ARRIVAL JANUARY 2020**

**PACKAGE PRICE in standard Double Room: Euro 450,00 per person (minimum 02 pax)**

**THE PRICE INCLUDES:**

- 7 x overnights with breakfast in 3 stars hotels in the room type reserved;
- Welcome drink in Taormina
- Wine tasting on Mount Etna
- Our phone assistance.
- Information material about Sicily on arrival.

**THE PRICE DOESN'T INCLUDE:**

- Meals and drinks in hotel;
- **Car rental;**
- City tax;
- Local guides and Tour Leader for all trip;
- Entrance fees
- Everything not mentioned under 'The price includes'.

**Foreseeing hotels:**

- Taormina Area, 3 nights:
- Agrigento Area, 1 night :
- Palermo Area, 2 nights:
- Siracusa Area, 1 night:

**CANCELLATION FEE:**

For cancellation from 14 days to 7 days before arrival, penalty 30%

For cancellation from 6 days to 3 day before arrival day: 70% of total amount

For cancellation from 2 days before arrival day or no show or earlier departure, penalty 100% of total amount