

# **Classic Sicily**

Starting at C\$2,745\*

## **Discover the Soul of Sicily**

Immerse yourself in ancient history and culinary delights as you discover Palermo's vibrant streets, ancient ruins in Agrigento, Taormina's coastal charm, and the majestic landscapes of Mount Etna.

## **Trip details**



\* Prices listed are in Canadian dollars, and are per-person, doubleoccupancy. If you would prefer a single room, there is a single-room supplement of C\$945



#### **Trip Highlights:**

- Messina Cathedral
- Palermo Walking Tour
- The Godfather Villages
  Winery Tour and Lunch at Tenuata San Michele
  Mount Etna Scenic Drive
- Valley of the Temples Tour
- Taormina Walking Tour
- Silvestri Volcano Crater
- Cantine Pellegrino Marsala Winery

#### Hotels:

- NH Palermo
- Baia di Ulisse Hotel
- Eurostars Monte Tauro

# 2025 Classic Sicily - 8 Days/7 Nights

# **Trip Itinerary**

#### Day 1 Palermo Arrival & Welcome Dinner

Meet your tour director at 5 PM and join your fellow travelers for a welcome drink and dinner at your waterfront hotel overlooking the Gulf of Palermo. A fascinating city rich in cultural treasures, Palermo was founded by the Phoenicians in the 5th century BC. Its streets are alive with stories of Greeks, Romans, Arabs, Normans, and many other influences. (D)

#### Day 3 Baglio Elena Agriturismo & Cantine Pellegrino

Explore Sicily's culinary delights during a visit to Trapani on the west coast. Drive through the mesmerizing salt flats, where the mineral is still harvested by traditional methods used by the Phoenicians. Participate in a cooking demonstration and enjoy a family-style farm-to-table lunch at Baglio Elena Agriturismo. At the renowned Cantine Pellegrino in Marsala, tour and taste their fortified wines. Arrive in Agrigento for dinner at your seaside hotel. (B, D)

#### Day 5 Taormina Walking Tour & Godfather Villages

Delve into the charm of Taormina, a captivating blend of natural beauty, rich history, and vibrant Italian charm. Its winding streets are filled with boutique shops, authentic cafes, and lively piazzas. Take a walking tour to see lush public gardens, medieval palazzos, Baroque fountains and ancient ruins. Enjoy free time for lunch. In the afternoon, visit the remote hilltop village of Savoca showcased in 'The Godfather'. Return to Taormina for an evening free to dine and explore as you wish. (B)

#### Day 7 Messina Cathedral & Cefalù

Arrive in Messina, a historic port city connecting Italy to the Mediterranean. Visit the Messina Cathedral bell tower, home to the world's largest mechanical and astronomical clock and watch its bronze statues spring to life at noon. Enjoy lunch on your own before heading to Cefalù for a stroll through this charming medieval seaside village. End the day with a farewell dinner of authentic Sicilian cuisine then return to Palermo for your final night. (B, D)

#### Day 2 Palermo Walking Tour & Monreale Cathedral

Take a guided tour of Monreale Cathedral, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This stunning landmark is a fascinating blend of Byzantine, Arab and Norman styles that dazzles with golden mosaics depicting biblical scenes. Return to the heart of Palermo for a walking tour to see grand piazzas, ornate castles and churches, and lively markets. Enjoy a free afternoon and evening to savor the city at your own pace. (B)

#### Day 4 Valley of the Temples & Taormina

Step back into ancient times as you explore one of the great achievements of antiquity and one of the largest archaeological sites in the world: the Valley of the Temples. Built by the ancient Greeks to worship their gods, this UNESCO World Heritage site stands in haunting testimony to the power and influence of the Greek Empire. Continue your journey to Taormina, nestled high above the stunning Sicilian coastline. Dine in your seaside hotel this evening and perhaps watch the sun set behind Mount Etna. (B, D)

#### Day 6 Mount Etna Tour & Wine Tasting

Today you'll explore life on the side of Mount Etna, Europe's highest active volcano. Start with a visit to Oro d'Etna, where bees produce honey from the nectar of trees like orange, lemon, thyme, and chestnut. Drive through stunning volcanic landscapes to Silvestri, where you can walk around a crater and admire the spectacular views. Then, head to Tenuata San Michele for a winery tour with familystyle lunch and tastings, enjoying panoramic views from its hillside perch. Return to Taormina for an evening free to dine and explore as you wish. (B, L)

#### Day 8 Tour Ends in Palermo

Your tour ends after breakfast. (B) B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner>



Please see <u>www.cietours.com</u> for the most up-to-date itinerary and pricing