Gourmet Sicily – A Culinary Adventure

Itinerary: 10 Days/ 09 Nights

Program in Brief	
Day 01	Sicily – Palermo: Welcome Dinner
Day 02	Palermo: FD Guided tour of Palermo & Monreale
Day 03	Palermo – HD Street Food Walking tour
Day 04	Palermo to Agrigento – HD The Valley of the Temples — PM: Pistacchio Tasting – Dinner
Day 05	Agrigento to Syracuse with stop in Modica
Day 06	Siracusa: HD Guided Walking Tour — PM: Siracusa to Taormina – Dinner
Day 07	Taormina: HD Guided Walking Tour
Day 08	Taormina: Morning Cooking class
Day 09	Taormina: Full day Mt. Etna with Wine Tasting and light lunch
Day 10	Departure Day – Arrivederci Italia!

Sicily is a culinary paradise where one thing is certain—you won't leave hungry! This vibrant island offers a rich tapestry of flavors deeply rooted in tradition and regional pride. From the east comes the beloved Pasta alla Norma, a hearty dish made with fried eggplant, tomatoes, basil, and ricotta salata. Sicily is also famous for its stunningly artistic frutta martorana, almond-based marzipan sweets shaped like fruits. And of course, no Sicilian experience is complete without tasting the iconic cannoli, crisp pastry tubes filled with sweet ricotta cream, known throughout Italy as "cannoli siciliani." These specialties reflect the heart and soul of Sicilian cuisine—colorful, rich, and unforgettable.

Itinerary day by day

Day 01: Sicily – Palermo: Welcome Dinner

Welcome to the sunny Sicily! Morning arrival at Punta Raisi airport in Palermo. Meet your Driver and your Sicilian Tour manager. Transfer to your hotel. Afternoon is free. Welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation	Palermo Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 02: Palermo: FD Guided tour of Palermo & Monreale

This morning will be dedicated to a guided tour of the capital of Sicily, Palermo. A cosmopolitan city where they live in harmony a mosaic of cultures which make the town a mystical and exotic at the same time. Our tour begins in the center with a visit to the Palace of the Normans and its superb Palatine Chapel, the Cathedral of Palermo, the Quattro Canti.

We will move then to Monreale, for a visit of the famous Benedictine Abbey, dating from the 12th century, which houses beautiful mosaics representing a complete cycle of the Old and New Testament. The tour ends with a stop at a Sicilian Pastry to taste the real "Cannoli siciliani"

Accommodation	Palermo Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

DAY 3: Palermo – HD Street Food Walking tour

After breakfast meet the guide and enhance your Palermo experience with a STREET FOOD WALKING TOUR. Sample the best of Sicily's street food during this 3h walking tour of Palermo led by a local expert guide. Explore the fascinating culinary world of Sicily's capital. Visit the famous and bustling Vucciria and Mercato di Capo outdoor markets, tasting five different Sicilian treats along the way — including 'panelle' (chickpea fritters) and 'arancine' (deep-fried rice balls).

Pass major Palermo monuments during the tour, like the imposing Teatro Massimo, and round out your tour with some local sweet wine and a seasonal dessert. Get in line at neighborhood bakeries, cafes and street food stalls to try a variety of famous Sicilian street snacks.

Sip on a sweet Sicilian wine to wash down your fried treats, and then head for a seasonal dessert. You may indulge in Sicily's famous "cannoli" (deep-fried pastry cylinders filled with sweetened ricotta cheese), some gelato or a refreshing granita (a fruity slushy). Afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation	Palermo Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 04: Palermo to Agrigento – HD The Valley of the Temples — PM: Pistacchio Tasting – Dinner

After breakfast depart to Agrigento (2h45' from Palermo). At your arrival in Agrigento, meet the guide and visit the Valley of the Temples, including the Temple of Juno, Concord, Heracles, Zeus, Castor and Pollux that represent the most beautiful example of the Greek Civilization in Sicily. This afternoon stop in a pastry where you can taste typical cookies with "Pistacchio and almonds"

The pistacchio that grows in Sicily is slightly longer and thinner than the one usually found in the Middle East and has a stronger taste. Together with almonds, they can be found throughout and are used in both savory and sweet dishes.

From pasta and arancine to coasting on cannoli (especially pistacchio). Pasta di mandorla or pasta di pistacchio is a paste used to make biscuits and cakes and can be found in any bakery or pasticceria. Tonight enjoy dinner at your hotel.

Accommodation	Agrigento Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 05: Agrigento to Syracuse with stop in Modica

After breakfast depart to Syracuse. Don't miss the chance to stop on the way to Modica (2H45' from Agrigento) for a visit of the oldest chocolate factory in Sicily: ANTICA DOLCERIA BONAJUTO.

The visit includes a demonstration and tasting of the traditional methods of making Modicano – a variety of chocolate typical of this city. After the experience, proceed to Syracuse (1H15' from Modica). Check in at your accommodation in Syracuse and rest of the day at leisure.

Accommodation	Syracuse Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 06: Siracusa: HD Guided Walking Tour — PM: Siracusa to Taormina – Dinner

Today after breakfast, enjoy a guided walking tour of Siracusa, once a powerful Greek city, enchants with its archaeological wonders and the timeless allure of Ortigia Island, where narrow alleys, seaside piazzas, and golden-hued buildings create an unforgettable atmosphere.

Your first visit will be at one of Sicily's greatest archeological sites – the Archaeological Park of Neapolis – home to a vast Greek theater and ancient stone quarries. Continue to the island of Ortigia, the small baroque historic heart of the city, surrounded by turquoise waters.

Walk the elegant Via del Crociferi or Benedettini enclave to sample treats at the market stalls and bakeries and the best places to eat in town. After the tour, depart to Taormina. Check in at your hotel in Taormina Area and enjoy dinner at your hotel or walking distance restaurant.

Accommodation	Taormina Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 07: Taormina: HD Guided Walking Tour

Meet a local tour guide after breakfast and go on a 2-hour walking tour of historic Taormina which includes tickets to visit the Roman Greek Theater where you will view Remains of ancient Greco-Roman theater now used for entertainment events. You'll be surrounded with the view of Mount Etna. Continue your tour with an exhilarating walk down the Corso Umberto with rows of shops, cafes & boutiques, and flower-draped balconies. Your guide will share the stories hidden in ancient arches and Baroque façades as you explore charming piazzas and quiet side streets.

This afternoon is all yours! Why not stroll the medieval streets lined with interesting little shops, take a dip in the hotel pool, or treat yourself to one of Sicily's greatest inventions – the Cannoli! It's taste like heaven for your mouth! Overnight in Taormina.

Accommodation	Taormina Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 08: Taormina: Morning Cooking class

This morning after breakfast, join Chef Massimo in Taormina, as he leads you through a guided market tour in our Shop with the Chef Tour showcasing Sicily's colorful foods. Visit the fruit and vegetable vendor to find out what's in season and the fishmonger to choose the best fresh catch of the day in Taormina's historic fish market. Pick up the ingredients for your hands-on cooking class while learning about the local in-season products and Massimo's family recipe and traditions. After the market tour, everyone returns to the kitchen and start the cooking class, featuring Sicilian specialties. Each hands-on cooking class includes the preparation of a full Sicilian menu and typical Sicilian dessert. Lunch follows featuring the foods prepared in class. Afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation	Taormina Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 09: Taormina: Full day Mt. Etna with Wine Tasting and light lunch

Mt Etna Volcano is one of the world's largest and most active volcanoes. It has been erupting since several million years. Mt Etna is one of the greatest and beautiful volcano adventure tour destinations in Sicily. This volcano has more than 400 craters, split all over the Catania county. To the ancient Greeks, Mount Etna was the realm of Vulcan, god of fire, and the home of the one-eyed monster known as the Cyclops. Mount Etna is a World Heritage Site. From 6,000 feet you can enjoy the best views, as you drive through the fertile slopes and villages that sit on ancient volcanic eruptions. End your experience with a tasting and lunch at a local winery at the foot of the mountain: you can enjoy the aromas and flavors that our generous land offers us. After visiting the winery and the vineyard, you will taste a delicious lunch based on local products prepared according to tradition as well as 5 wines expertly paired with dishes.

Accommodation	Taormina Hotel	Meal Plan: Dinner & Overnight

Day 10: Departure Day – Arrivederci Italia!

Transfer to the airport of Catania for your flight home.

End of Program

Services & Hotels

Price Included:

- One group transfer on arrival from airport to hotel
- Professional English Speaking Tour Manger throughout trip
- Guides and transfers where needed
- 09 dinners (1/2 water, ¼ wine per person), 2 tastings, 1 food tour, 1 lunch in winery
- Cooking Class in Taormina
- All admissions to tours/attractions where specified in itinerary
- Breakfast daily
- 4-star hotel listed as or similar
- Hotel Taxes
- One group transfer on return from hotel to airport

Price excluded:

- Flight to and from Italy
- Gratuities to the local guides and driver

Accommodation at hotels mentioned hereunder or similar (upon availability)		
City	**4-Stars Hotels**	**Nights**
Palermo	Hotel Mercure**** or similar	3
Agrigento	Hotel della Valle**** or similar	1
Syracuse	Hotel Parco delle Fontane**** or similar	1
Taormina	Hotel Naxos Beach**** or similar	4