

Gourmet Sicilia - this tour is for those who wish to explore the culinary specialties of Sicily during their visit, while they also enjoy the varied sites and cities it has to offer. With the Guaranteed departure dates, the 8 day / 7 night itinerary can be arranged as a private tour for just 2 persons, or a regular group tour of up to 15 individuals.

What's Included Summary

- Select Hotel & Agriturismo style Accommodations - all with private bath
- Daily Breakfast
- Meals: total of 6 lunches or dinners, including cooking class preparations
- 3 Cooking classes and associated meals
- Guided visits and excursions per the program
- Wine tasting and guided Cellar tour
- Transportation w/ English speaking driver-guide
- Airport Transfers and baggage assistance

Tour Does Not Include

- International Airfare
- Drinks during meals
- Meals not specifically mentioned
- Entrance fees to archaeological sites and museums (to be paid locally)
- Gratuities and extras of any personal nature

Tour Dates and Prices

Guaranteed Tour Dates	Prices
April 3, April 17	€ 1,950
May 1, May 22	€ 2,250
June 5, June 19	€ 2,250
Sept 4, Sept 18	€ 2,250
Oct 2, 9, 13, 30	€ 1,950

The Gourmet Sicily Tour offers several start dates to choose from. Below we have outlined the program over the 8 day / 7 night itinerary.

Day 1: Castellamare (Palermo)

Arrival in Palermo airport and welcomed by our driver. Transfer to nearby Castellamare and check in at a charming four star hotel. Dinner on your own and overnight.

Day 2: Cooking Lesson - Erice - Castellamare (Palermo)

Morning: breakfast in hotel. Departure for a Baglio for a cooking lesson. Baglio is a villa recently restored and converted into a charming and exclusive little hotel surrounded by palm trees, olive trees and vineyards. The chef at Baglio will teach guests how to prepare some of the most representative recipes with the culinary traditions found in the Trapani province. All participants will help prepare the dishes for the group lunch. Afterwards, transfer to Erice a medieval, hilltop town, set 751 meters above the sea level and overlooking the whole Western region, the Mediterranean Sea and the Egadi Islands; there a walking visit of its characteristic historical centre. Later, a short drive back to the hotel and then dinner on your own and overnight. **(B, L)**

Day 3: Agrigento - Piazza Armerina

Morning breakfast in the hotel. Departure to Agrigento to visit the beautiful Valley of the Temples, one of the most representative sites of Greek civilization in the Mediterranean area. Visit to the Temple of Hercules, the Temple of Juno, the Temple of Castor and Pollux and the wonderful Temple of Concord. Lunch on your own in Agrigento. In the afternoon travel to Piazza Armerina, a small town in the south-central part of the island, and visit to the Villa Romana del Casale, a Roman country villa of the 3rd century, famous for its precious mosaics. Transfer to a charming Agriturismo between Piazza Armerina and Caltagirone, where they produce citrus crops - oranges and lemons. Check in at the Agriturismo. Some rest time before a special dinner in the characteristic restaurant. The cuisine is based on authentic food such as pasta, ricotta, salsiccia, and vegetables. Overnight. **(B, D)**

Day 4: Cooking Lesson: Modica - Siracusa - Taormina

Breakfast in hotel; then depart for Modica, a baroque town in southern Sicily. There you will have another cooking lesson, on this occasion with a chef-teacher of traditional regional cuisine. Afterwards, of course, enjoy your lunch including the dishes prepared during the lesson. For deserts, a taste of the locally produced chocolates! Afterwards, leave to visit Siracusa, which during the Greek Age was one of the more powerful cities on the island. Visit to the archaeological zone: the Greek Theatre, the Roman Amphitheatre, the Ear of Dionisus and the Latomie. Walk through the historical center on the Ortigia Island to admire the Cathedral, the Aretusa fountain and the ancient streets. Some time for shopping, then transfer to Taormina. Check in at the hotel; Dinner on your own and overnight. **(B, L)**

Itinerary Con't

Day 5: Taormina - Optional Etna and its Wines

Breakfast at the hotel, then all day on your own in Taormina. Walk through the historical center of this beautiful town, famous for its Greek-Roman Amphitheatre and its enchanting view of the Ionic Sea and Mt. Etna. Taormina has been an exclusive Sicilian hotspot, since the beginning of the 19th century, and is where many noble and rich families of Northern Europe spent winter due to its mild climate. Nowadays, Taormina is famous for its "dolce vita" life style, its beautiful beach, and its shops. Or you may wish to take an optional excursion to Etna with a lunch at Tenuta S. Michele, an ancient wine producing estate located on the slopes of the volcano. The farm, which belongs to the noble family of the Baron Scammacca del Murgo, is surrounded by extensive vineyards and a panoramic view. The climate around Etna and the volcanic soil help give the local wines a unique mineral taste. Tenuta San Michele produces some of the best wines of the area. You can enjoy a wine tasting and guided visit to the wine cellar with a member of the family. Later, a drive back to Taormina for free time, then dinner on your own. Overnight. **(B, optional L, W)**

Day 6: Cooking Lesson - The Cuisine of the Country/The Madonie Park

Breakfast at the hotel before moving on to Polizzi, a small village not far from Palermo, surrounded by cheerful countryside and green pastures. Polizzi lies in the Madonie Mountains' Natural Park. This internal region between the Northern Coast and Central Sicily has a wealth of ancient small villages, where many people still live according to the Sicilian traditions. In Polizzi guests will have a cooking lesson in a local farmhouse (or a nice restaurant). The owner of the farm will teach them to prepare some of the most popular and essential recipes according to the local traditions and of course lunch follows with the prepared items. Afterwards, a visit to Polizzi Generosa, and a walk of the ancient village, rich in historical and artistic attractions. Later check in at a Agriturismo near Polizzi. Time to relax and then dinner on your own. **(B, L)**

Day 7: Palermo - Monreale

Breakfast in hotel, then transfer to Palermo for a full-day visit to this ancient town that has been a crossroads for civilization in the Mediterranean for ages and ages. Here, visit and seek out signs of its ancient "grandeur": the Norman Palace and the Palatine Chapel, the church of San Giovanni degli Eremiti, the Cathedral, Quattro Canti square, etc. Walk through the streets of the historical center, and visit to the town's popular Vucciria market. Lunch on your own in town. In the afternoon you will transfer to Monreale, ancient village near Palermo, famous for its wonderful Norman Cathedral and the adjoining cloister, architectural masterpieces of King Roger II. Return to Palermo; Check in at the hotel. Later your "farewell" dinner at a special restaurant where guests will enjoy superb and refined dishes based on typical recipes from local culinary traditions. After dinner, an optional sightseeing tour - "Palermo By Night". Back to the hotel and overnight. **(B, D)**

Itinerary Con't

Day 8: Departure

Breakfast at the hotel and check out; your transfer will take you to the airport in Palermo.

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner, W=Wine Tasting, O=Olive Oil Tasting

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Payments: A 40% deposit is required in order to confirm your reservation. Payments can be made by credit card (VISA, M/C, AMEX) or by bank transfer. The balance payment will be due 60 days prior to the Start Date for your selected tour. With credit card payments, the balance payment will automatically be charged to the credit card provided, unless the reservation is otherwise cancelled or notice is given to use an alternate form of payment.

IF YOU DECIDE TO CANCEL, YOU MUST NOTIFY THE COMPANY IN WRITING OF YOUR INTENT TO CANCEL. If you cancel a reservation and the written cancellation is received within 30 days from the date you made the reservation, then all fees paid will be refunded, with exception to the provisions for Airline Tickets and otherwise net of credit card service charges.

After the first 30 days of your reservation period, deposits and payments for accommodations will follow the refund schedule below.

After the 30 day initial reservation period, but
Prior to 90 days before Start Date: Refund, less 25% of total cost, net of Tickets;
Prior to 60 days before Start Date: Refund, less 50% of total cost, net of Tickets;
Prior to 45 days before Start Date: Refund, less 75% of total cost, net of Tickets;
Less than 45 days before Start Date: No refunds.

No refunds are made for unused portions of any reservation, including but not limited to missed meals, missed guided tours, Tickets (includes airline tickets), or non-use of hotel room.

Passports & Visas: All customers must possess a valid passport and/or any visas or special travel documents that can be used as a proof of citizenship. The Company accepts no liability for clients improperly documented.

Travel Insurance Protection: To cover costs associated with your reservation, the Company encourages you to consider purchasing a travel insurance policy. The Company does not supply or support any one company in this regard but can make suggestions as to the companies that provide this service.

General Conditions: Confirmation and payment of any reservation constitutes acceptance of the financial agreements between the Company and the Customer and the provisions of this agreement are in effect. The Company is acting as a tour operator responsible for arranging reservations for the services as outlined in the website paliotours.com. All suppliers providing transportation, guided tours, and lodging for the Company are not employees of the Company. The Company assumes no responsibility or liability for any claims, damages, expenses or other financial loss, whether to person or property, arising from, but not limited to, injury, accident, death, delay, alteration or inconvenience, by whatever cause, including airline scheduling, default, strike, terrorism, war, hostility, civil disturbance, quarantine, or resulting directly or indirectly from any other acts of nature. Under no circumstances is the Company to be construed as a Common Carrier under contract for safe carriage of the passenger or his/her baggage and personal belongings.

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