



PREPARED FOR
Diane Schofield



CUSTOM ITINERARY PROPOSAL

Sicily in Bloom

A Journey Through History, Nature & Mediterranean Bloom

TRAVELERS

1 Adult

DURATION

10 Days · 9 Nights

STYLE

May 2027 · Infiorata Season

A 10-day itinerary through the authentic soul of Sicily, from east to west, in a succession of breathtaking landscapes, ancient history, and traditions that come into full bloom at every stop — from Taormina's Greek Theatre to Noto's flower-carpeted streets and the golden temples of Agrigento.

Trip Overview

Nine nights across Sicily, east to west — here's everything included in this proposal, at a glance.



ACCOMMODATION

- Taormina (3 nights): Hotel Caparena, 4★
- Ragusa (2 nights): Hotel Mediterraneo Palace, 4★
- Palermo (4 nights): Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa, 4★



GUIDED EXPERIENCES

- Taormina walking tour with a local guide
- Full-day Mt. Etna & Circumetnea Railway, incl. winery visit and tasting
- Neapolis Archaeological Park & Ortigia, Syracuse, admission included
- “Noto in Bloom” — the Infiorata experience
- Valley of the Temples, Agrigento, admission included
- Norman Palace & Palatine Chapel, Palermo, skip-the-line
- Private full day: Erice, Marsala & Trapani



MEALS

- Daily breakfast (9 mornings)
- Tasting & light lunch, Taormina walking tour
- Wine tasting & light lunch, Mt. Etna excursion
- Lunch, Valley of the Temples tour
- Wine tasting & lunch in Marsala
- Farewell dinner in Palermo



TRANSPORTATION

- Private arrival transfer, Catania Airport
- Private transfers throughout, incl. regional trains where noted
- Private transfer Ragusa → Palermo, with a stop in Agrigento
- Private departure transfer, Palermo Airport



On-Site Assistance Dedicated staff to assist upon arrival and check-in.

Not included: city tax, gratuities, travel insurance, and international/domestic flights. As this proposal refers to a 2027 departure, final pricing remains subject to review due to potential exchange rate fluctuations, which may require a slight adjustment closer to the travel date.

DAY 1



Welcome to Eastern Sicily

Catania, Sicily's second-largest city, sits at the foot of Mount Etna. Rebuilt in the Baroque era after the volcano's 1669 eruption, its UNESCO-listed historic core is a wonder of black-and-white palazzi towering over sweeping piazzas — and, beneath it all, the ruins of a city over 2,700 years old.



ARRIVAL • 10 MIN

Airport Transfer

Your private transfer picks you up at Catania Airport and takes you directly to your hotel in Taormina.



CHECK-IN 14:00 • 3 NIGHTS • B&B

Hotel Caparena



Set in Mediterranean gardens, a few steps from a private beach

An outdoor pool, sea-view terrace, and on-site spa with hot tub and steam room. All rooms are air-conditioned, most with a balcony; Sicilian and international cuisine is served in the garden through the summer months.



Hotel Caparena's gardens, steps from the sea

DAY 2

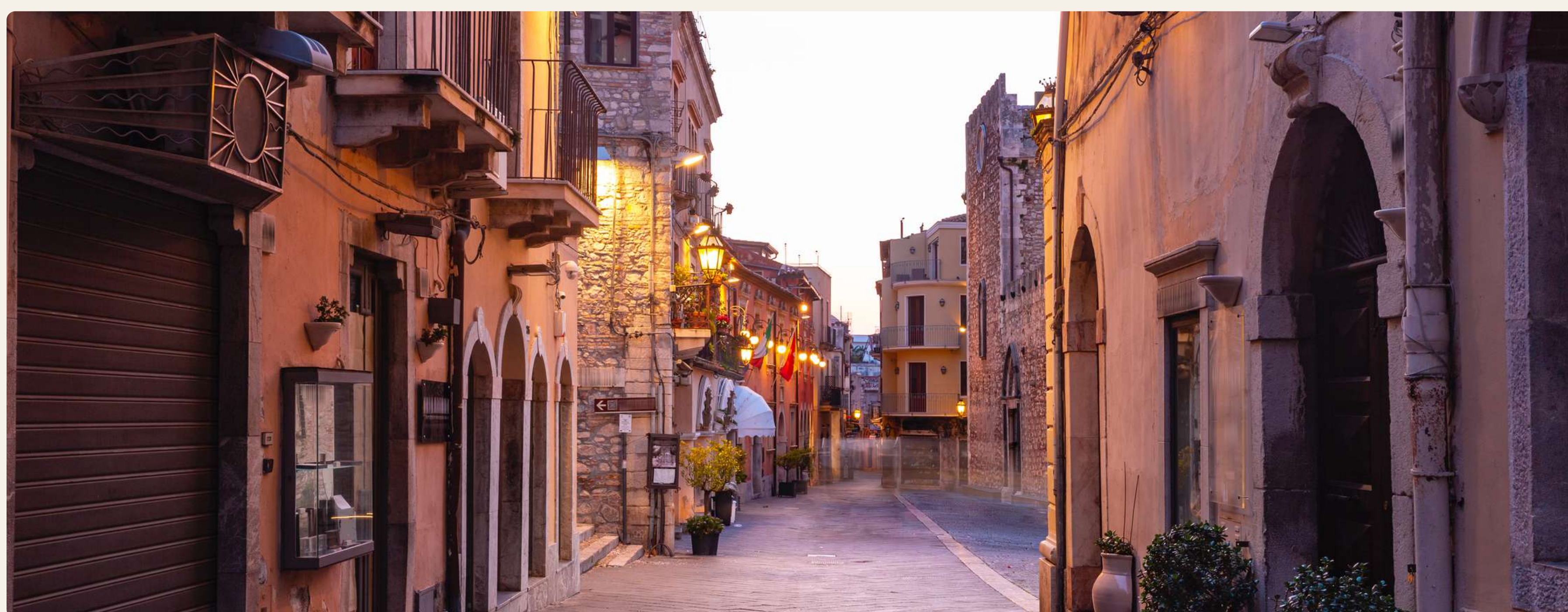


Taormina Walking Tour



START 9:00 AM • 3 HOURS • LOCAL GUIDE

Experience the enchanting charm of Taormina, a jewel of Sicily perched between the sparkling Ionian Sea and the majestic Mount Etna. Stroll along the elegant Corso Umberto, lined with boutique shops and historic buildings, and admire breathtaking views from Piazza IX Aprile. Discover the ancient Greek Theatre, a stunning blend of history and natural beauty, where the past meets panoramic vistas. Wander through picturesque alleys, lush gardens, and hidden corners, soaking in the timeless atmosphere of this iconic Sicilian town.



DAY 3



Mt. Etna and the Circumetnea Railway



START 7:30 AM • 10 HOURS 30 MIN • GUIDE & WINERY TASTING

Depart with your guide for Mt. Etna, the highest peak in Sicily and the most active volcano in Europe. Reach the hidden gem station of Taormina-Giardini and board the regional train to Giarre, where you change rail for a scenic tour of the volcano aboard the historic Circumetnea Railway, winding through vineyards and picturesque, lunar landscapes. At Randazzo, meet your private driver to enjoy Etna's heights before visiting a local winery nestled on the volcano's slopes for a guided tasting session — returning to your hotel by minivan in the afternoon.

DAY 4



Neapolis Archaeological Park & Ortigia



START 10:30 AM • 3 HOURS • GUIDE, ADMISSION INCLUDED

Siracusa was founded in 734 B.C. and quickly became one of the most powerful cities of Greek society — once bigger than Athens. Visit the Neapolis Archaeological Park, home to the Greek Theatre, one of the largest amphitheatres in the world and remarkably preserved since the 5th century B.C., along with the Latomia del Paradiso and its famous “Ear of Dionysus.” Afterwards, visit the island of Ortigia, the historic heart of Siracusa, admiring the Temple of Apollo, the Cathedral, and the Fountain of Arethusa, with free time to wander its charming streets and harbour.



DAY 4



Welcome to Ragusa

A captivating blend of history, atmosphere, and timeless charm, Ragusa welcomes you with its unique character and quiet elegance. Wander through atmospheric lanes, where history emerges in every corner and the pace of life slows to a gentle rhythm — intimate, evocative, and deeply Sicilian.



CHECK-IN 18:00 • 2 NIGHTS • B&B

Hotel Mediterraneo Palace

★★★★

In the city centre of Ragusa, close to Ragusa Ibla

Established in 1958, this 4-star hotel features a restaurant, bar, and conference room. All 92 rooms come with minibar, hairdryer, safe, and air conditioning.



Hotel Mediterraneo Palace

DAY 5



Noto in Bloom: The Infiorata Experience

 **START 9:00 AM • 8 HOURS • VEHICLE AT DISPOSAL**

Reach Noto, the apotheosis of late Baroque town planning, built in local limestone that seemingly absorbs the sun's rays and transforms them into a soft, honeyed glow. Along Corso Vittorio Emanuele, the Cathedral, Palazzo Ducezio, and Palazzo Nicolaci di Villadorata tell the story of the town's Baroque rebirth. It is along the enchanting Via Nicolaci, framed by balconies adorned with grotesque figures, that Noto's famous Infiorata takes place: a breathtaking display where the street becomes a living carpet of flower petals, arranged into intricate designs by local artists — a true celebration of color, creativity, and Sicilian tradition.



DAY 6



The Valley of the Temples, Agrigento



8 HOURS • GUIDE, ADMISSION & LUNCH INCLUDED

This day tour begins with a transfer to Agrigento, where you'll meet your guide for a tour of the stunning Valley of the Temples, a breathtaking archaeological site showcasing remarkably preserved ancient Greek temples — a glimpse into Sicily's rich history and architectural mastery. After the tour, enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant before continuing by scenic rail from Agrigento to Palermo, traversing picturesque landscapes and historic towns while your driver continues ahead with your luggage, ready to meet you at the hotel on arrival.

DAY 6



Welcome to Palermo

Check in and meet our assistance team, on hand to greet you and provide any information you need. Relax and unwind after a day of exploration.



CHECK-IN 17:00 • 4 NIGHTS • B&B

Grand Hotel Piazza Borsa

An Art Deco palazzo steps from San Francesco d'Assisi and the Vucciria Market

127 air-conditioned rooms with minibar and LCD TV, two restaurants, a fitness center, and a fireplace in the lobby. Centrally located within close proximity of the Gallery of Modern Art, with tour and ticket assistance available on site.

★★★★

DAY 7



Palermo in Gold: Norman Power & Timeless Beauty

 **START 9:00 AM • 3 HOURS 30 MIN • SKIP-THE-LINE ACCESS**

Step into more than eight centuries of history on this unforgettable journey through Palermo's Norman Palace and Palatine Chapel. With an expert local guide, explore the oldest royal residence in Europe, a symbol of the wealth, power, and cultural fusion that once defined the Norman Kingdom. Inside the Palace, discover grand halls steeped in political history before entering the breathtaking Palatine Chapel — a jewel of Byzantine art, its glowing gold mosaics and inscriptions in Arabic, Latin, and Greek creating a dazzling harmony of cultures. With time to wander the peaceful royal gardens, this guided visit offers a powerful glimpse into Palermo's extraordinary past.

DAY 8



Western Sicily: Erice, Marsala & Trapani



START 8:00 AM • 9 HOURS • PRIVATE GUIDE & DEDICATED VEHICLE

Venture beyond Palermo and into the wild, windswept landscapes of western Sicily on this private full-day journey through some of the island's most evocative corners. Begin in Erice, a medieval town perched high above the coast, once a sacred site of the Elymians — one of Sicily's most ancient peoples — where the legends of the goddess Venus still linger in its cobbled streets and stone towers. From there, descend toward Marsala, renowned for its historic wine-making tradition, for a guided tasting paired with a delicious lunch, savoring the authentic flavors of western Sicily. The day continues along the legendary salt road of Trapani, where centuries-old windmills rise from shallow pans that shimmer pink and gold in the light — western Sicily as it was always meant to be discovered.



DAY 9



Free Day in Palermo

A day to enjoy Palermo independently, with time to wander its vibrant streets, markets, and hidden corners — or to choose from a selection of optional experiences.

ON YOUR OWN, DON'T MISS

- Teatro Massimo — Italy's largest opera house
- Ballarò & Vucciria Markets — historic street markets
- Kalsa district — Orto Botanico & Foro Italico
- Mondello Beach — a relaxing seaside afternoon

OPTIONAL (ADDITIONAL COST)

- Palermo food tour — iconic street food & specialties
- Cooking class — traditional Sicilian cuisine
- Half-day Cefàlu — Norman cathedral, medieval old town
- Half-day Monreale — famous Byzantine mosaics



19:30 • 2 HOURS

Farewell Dinner in Palermo

A memorable close to your Sicilian journey in a charming local trattoria — arancini, pasta con le sarde, and cannoli, savored amid the magical charm of Palermo by night.

DAY 10 • DEPARTURE



Transfer from Hotel to Palermo Airport

 09:00 • 2 HOURS 10 MINUTES

Your private transfer will pick you up at your hotel, with a driver waiting with a signboard bearing your name, for the journey to Palermo Airport.

From an active volcano's slopes to a carpet of flower petals, from golden temples to golden mosaics — ten days told through *Exploring* Sicily's many layers, *Savoring* its table, and *Connecting* with the traditions that make it bloom.



meet & greet



MADE IN ITALY BY ITALIANS

**We can't wait to welcome you and
make your travel dreams come true!**
