

ITINERARY 1

Western Sicily

The entire journey of this itinerary involves both a professional guide and an art historian, curator, and cultural critic, who will accompany you during your stay.

11 DAYS

*Teatro Andromeda,
Santo Stefano Quisquina*



ITINERARY 1

WESTERN SICILY



DAY 1

Arrival at Palermo airport and transfer to the hotel. After dinner, briefing with our Living Heritage, architect, who has made his passion his profession, dedicating himself for more than 30 years to the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of Sicilian historical and arts heritage. He is a great connoisseur of Sicilian contemporary art phenomena.

DAY 2 - A Master in Palermo

The morning will be spent visiting the collections of the Palazzo Riso, Regional Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art in Palermo. Here, you will discover the contemporary art in Sicily through precious permanent collection. In the afternoon, master Ignazio Schifano will be waiting for you and will open his atelier to welcome you and tell you about his art experience, involving you, if you wish, in some workshop activity. Dinner in a prestigious noble palace, which will open its rooms for us.

DAY 3 Palermo collections

The tour continues in Palermo. You will be guests of the modern and contemporary art collection of Villa Zito. A private villa owned by Banco di Sicilia Foundation, which shows its collection of over 1,000 works. It involves mainly pictorial and graphic, by authors ranging from the early seventeenth to the twentieth century. Among these, the paintings of the Sicilians authors are very important. Lunch with Palermo Street food in characteristic places. After lunch, you will visit Palazzo Butera. It is a monumental complex, located in the ancient Kalza district, today home to the modern and contemporary art collection of Massimo and Francesca Valsecchi. In 2016, they carried on a project of mixing and unification of thought between Art, Culture and History, convinced that, only in Sicily, the welcoming gene may have a reason to exist. Transfer to Castel di Tusa for overnight stay at the "Atelier sul Mare" an Hotel Museum. Before dinner, visit the rooms. This hotel is an integral part of one of the largest sculpture parks in Europe, Fiumara d'Arte, and each room is designed and furnished by many different artists, to whom you, living there for a few hours, will be an integral part of it.

DAY 4 - The Tusa River

After breakfast, you will visit Fiumara d'Arte, the open-air museum that houses 9 works in a portion of the territory, including 6 neighbouring municipalities, along the Tusa river, which flowed a lot long ago, dry today. The works are immersed in the landscape and powerfully carry their universal message of beauty and humanity.

DAY 5 - The land of Guttuso

After breakfast, tour of Bagheria. The visit will start with the eighteenth-century villa Cattolica, which became the "Civic Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art". On the second floor of the villa many works by the Master Renato Guttuso and others belonging to his private collection are exhibited, all donated by the Master to the city of Bagheria. The villa also houses the monumental Ark, in which the Master is buried, who died in Rome on January 18, 1987, created for him by his friend and sculptor Giacomo Manzù. You will then move to Villa Palagonia, also called "villa of monsters" due to the statues of deformed monsters and disturbing animals arranged along the driveway, which made Goethe write when he visited the villa, of a mad and chaotic monumental work. This villa inspired many works by the Guttuso masters, who played in his court, and by Salvador Dalí who chose it as his residence every time he came to Sicily. Transfer to Gibellina Nuova (Hotel Don Giovanni - Sambuca).

DAY 6 - The rebirth after the earthquake

This morning, visit to the Land Art memorial, the Cretto di Burri, one of the largest in the world. With the cretto technique, the famous Maestro recalls the destruction and death caused by the tragedy of the 1968 earthquake that destroyed the Belice valley, massing and fixing the rubble of the destroyed town of Gibellina with concrete, and thus creating a huge and homogeneous labyrinth structure, placed like a shroud on one side of the small hill. In the afternoon, you will go around the streets of Gibellina Nuova, rebuilt in 1970 after the earthquake. At that time, the administration led by the mayor Ludovico Corrao chose to accompany the building

with an ambitious urban design project that would transform it into the largest open-air museum in Italy, through the intervention of artists and architects, famous all over the world, who enriched and gave a new form of life to the city.

DAY 7 - The contemporary art in Gibellina

The tour continues in Gibellina. You will visit the Orestyadi Foundation, whose works document the artists' stay in Gibellina and their contribution to the reconstruction project of the city. Proceeding on and visit of the MAC (Museum of Contemporary Art), an historical and chronological exhibition itinerary of contemporary art, which documents the many and varied poetics of Italian and international art. After the visits, transfer to Favara.

DAY 8 - The different Favara or the other face of Favara

Today visit of the Farm Cultural Park. An area within the historic centre of Favara, which has been transformed into a small multifunctional cultural district, dedicated to art and sociability. It was born from an idea of a private who, after a tragic event that shocked the whole town, together with his wife, decided to recover, 7 courtyards, and little by little, part of the historic centre of the town, transforming it into an unexpected and surprising enclave, open to all, where the only form of expression is contemporary art in its many manifestations. If you are lucky, you will meet the patrons behind this great educational and training project that is inspired by and evokes the beautiful.

DAY 9 - In the spaceship towards Santo Stefano Quisquina

After breakfast, departure to Agrigento, passing through Santo Stefano Quisquina. There, you will enter the Andromeda theatre. Its name was given by recalling the astrophysics thesis which would foresee the cosmic collision between our galaxy, "The Milky Way", and that, precisely, of Andromeda, which seem to be able to meet in 5 billion years. Here at 1000 meters above sea level, in the Sicilian mountains, it was carved with stone by the shepherd-sculptor Lorenzo Reina.

DAY 10 - the Sicilian roots

This morning you will enter the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento, where in front of the Temple of Concord it is possible to admire the statue of Icarus, donated by the famous contemporary Polish sculptor Igor Mitoraj. Afterwards, still inside the park, you will get lost inside the scents and colours of Kolimpetra, located between the temple of the Dioscuri and the temple of Vulcan. This garden was born as an artificial basin in the 5th century BC, and today it fully summarizes the Mediterranean fauna, including productive, environmental, cultural, ethical, and aesthetic functions, becoming an example of active protection of the agricultural landscape formed over the centuries in Sicily.

DAY 11 - The end of the journey

After breakfast, check-out, and transfer to the airport. End of services.

The estimated budget for this trip is:
from € 6.580,00 per person (minimum 4people)
to € 4.680,00 per person (maximum 16 pax)

Ad hoc quotation for 2 pax
Maximum group 16 pax

Included

Half board for 6 days in a double or twin room. Lunches organized for 6 days, guide service for the duration of the tour, living heritage, transport by luxury minibus, insurance, possible covid 19 tampon through an approved laboratory.

Not included

Flight, single room supplement, tips, portage at the airport, luggage tax at the hotel, drinks at dinners, meals not mentioned in the program, tastings for a fee. Anything that is not specified under "include".

ITINERARY 2

Eastern Sicily

For the entire route of this itinerary, your professional guide will be an art historian, curator, cultural critic (who collaborates with Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome, Palazzo Strozzi in Florence and Palazzo Blu in Pisa), who will accompany you during your stay.

9 DAYS

*Murales.
Librino district, Catania*



ITINERARY 2

EASTERN SICILY



DAY 1

Arrival to the Catania airport. Transfer to the hotel, Casa Cuseni Museum, in Taormina.

The hotel, built in the early 1900s by the British painter Robert H. Kitson, is now the Museum of Fine Arts and the Grand Tour of the City of Taormina.

It is part of the "Case della Memoria" museum circuit, which contains the houses of the most important Italian intellectuals. Its historic garden is part of the 124 Great Italian Gardens.

You will visit the hotel museum, with the artist's private collections, and its garden.

Dinner and briefing to the entire Sicilian stay.

DAY 2 - The Etna's contemporaneity

In the morning visit to Linguaglossa, a village on Etna, which was the birthplace of the famous sculptor Francesco Messina and the lesser-known painter Salvatore Incorpora, great interpreters of the Italian twentieth century.

Here, through the city path called "IntrArt", we will visit the Messina / Incorpora museum, the Incorpora house museum, where the artist's children will welcome us, and finally we will walk among the murals of the streets of the city centre, testifying to what the art is still present and alive in these people.

In the afternoon visit of Giardini Naxos to admire the mural created by Danilo Bucchi dedicated to courage, brotherhood, and the importance of life.

DAY 3 - Art in the gardens

After breakfast, visit to the village of San Giovanni La Punta, to enter the La Verde La Malfa - Parco dell'Arte Foundation, a villa dedicated to an important private art collection immersed in a one-hectare park, listed among the Great Italian Gardens.

This foundation was commissioned by the multifaceted artist from Catania Elena Lo Verde and, after her death in 2012, her son, Alfredo La Malfa, continues its mission by promoting and carrying out study and research initiatives in the visual, literary, entertainment and quantum arts.

The tour will continue in the northern outskirts of Catania, where you will visit a private open-air museum: "The rooms in bloom: the garden of rebirth". A 7-hectare park in which the artist herself will lead us among the thousand species of rare tropical and sub-tropical plants, contemporary sculptures, and an ornamental representation of the four elements: air, water, earth, and fire.

You will continue in Catania with the accommodation at the Museo Art Hotel Asmundo di Gisira a non-formal, independent structure, an art Market as a gallery and a figurative living exhibition.

(MUSA restaurant dinner)

DAY 4 - Along the streets of Catania

After breakfast, visit the entire Art Hotel Museum, which exhibits works by important contemporary sculptors and painters.

The visit continues in via San Michele, a narrow street in the historic centre of Catania, which contains a small district dedicated to quality art and craftsmanship. Here, within the art galleries, the artists will be waiting for you, and if you wish, also involve you in workshop activities.

Dinner in a private noble palace with a special agreement, exclusively for you, in the company of the hosts.

DAY 5 - Beauty in popular neighbourhood's

You will be guided in the streets of Catania decorated with street art, between San Berillo, the Civita, in the presence of some of the authors of the murals and urban art works. The visit continues at the Port with the vision of the largest Murales in the world, created by the famous Portuguese artist Vhils. Then in Librino, a popular neighbourhood.

Free afternoon.

Dinner in the company of the last remaining Sicilian storytellers who studies and re-proposes in an authentic way, the reinterpretation of these Sicilian characters since the fourteenth century slowly disappeared at the beginning of the second half of the last century (Luigi Di Pino).

The storyteller was a traveling poet, an entertainer,

a communicator who, travelling through Sicilian villages, told in music, true stories of lovers, legends, satires against the powerful and political.

DAY 6 - The surreal creative

Transfer to Aci Castello. Visit to the Riviera dei Ciclopi Eco Museum and tour of the Archive / Atelier of Jean Calogero, one of the most important Sicilian painters of the twentieth century. Visiting his home-studio, from which he commuted for more than 40 years to Paris.

In the afternoon return to Catania, where you will be hosted by the master Alfredo Guglielmino in his "Cartura" art workshop, who will enchant you with the narration of his artisan artistic project based on the recovery of poor material, paper and cardboard.

DAY 7 - The innovative workshops

This morning you are going to visit the Brodbeck Foundation, a post-industrial complex dedicated to contemporary art located in the heart of popular Catania.

The foundation was created in 2007 by an entrepreneur from Catania of Swiss origin, Paolo Brodbeck, and has the aim to "produce and present works and artists capable of changing the boundaries of making art".

Here, in an area of 6 thousand square meters, are located exhibition spaces, artist residences, guest quarters and a design laboratory.

You will meet and discuss with some of them...

In the afternoon, transfer to Noto for accommodation at the Zahir Country House, a resort with an en plein air museum. Here, works and installations by artists, creatives and innovators will lead you on a path of reflection, stimulated by our living heritage that will accompany you, on the importance of recovering the ancient Italian and Mediterranean cultures.

DAY 8 - The contemporary classic

After breakfast, visit to the Parco della Neapoli, Syracuse, to visit the Greek Theatre, famous for its classical representations.

In afternoon transfer to Palazzolo Acreide, a small village in the Syracusan hinterland to visit the Museum of the Soul. Here, the language of traditional knowledge and the different expressive forms of contemporary art establish a new unique and universal way of speaking to the world of immortality and beauty.

DAY 9 - the end of the journey

After breakfast, check-out, and transfer to the airport. End of services.

The estimated budget for this trip is:

from € 5.130,00 per person (minimum 4 people)
to € 3.800,00 per person (maximum 16 pax)

Ad hoc quotation for 2 pax

Maximum group 16 pax

Included

Half board for 4 days in a double or twin room. Lunches organized for 4 days, guide service for the duration of the tour, living heritage, transport by luxury minibus, insurance, possible covid 19 tampon through an approved laboratory.

Not included

Flight, single room supplement, tips, portage at the airport, luggage tax at the hotel, drinks at dinners, meals not mentioned in the program, tastings for a fee. Anything that is not specified under "include".