

IMAGINE/DISCOVER/LIVE

## People and the Volcano: coexistence over the centuries

EXCITING  
HORIZON  
Be Your Journey

During the itinerary, your guides will be two professional geologists, great connoisseurs of Etna phenomena, who will accompany you by revealing the articulated network of relationships and balance created between the people and the great “Mountain”.

**8 DAYS**

*Olive trees upon lava stone.  
Property of Signorelli*



## ITINERARY

# PEOPLE AND THE VOLCANO: COEXISTENCE OVER THE CENTURIES



### DAY 1

Fly to Catania airport. Transfer to the accommodation. Dinner and briefing with one of our Living Heritage (volcanologists, expert in environmental issues, author of scientific publications), who will introduce the experience you are going to do during the stay.

### DAY 2 - Terra Madre ETNA

After breakfast, the journey begins knowing "the one who determines everything": the Etna's Volcano. We will walk along the Valle del Bove. This path is chosen since it is one of the best summarizing the influence, strength, and vitality of the nature. A stop for lunch with un brindisi al Volcano, tasting typical local products in the outdoor area (it depends on the weather).

In the afternoon, we visit the olive oil production chain by visiting the Enzo Signorelli's firm. He is a photo reporter and journalist who decided to run his family's rural activity. We will discover, exclusively, the secrets of the centenary olive trees of the Etna's. We will appreciate an uncontaminated territory, where the harmony between man's work and respect for nature is the key to the beauty of the fruits and the success of its internationally awarded oil. Return to the accommodation facility. Dinner in the company of our living heritage, a journalist, author of numerous books and articles dedicated to the Sicilian Volcano and the hidden beauties of Sicily, who for over thirty-five years has been telling about Etna and Sicily, enhancing the territory and the memory of the twentieth century.

### DAY 3 - Stories of men

The journey continues in the west side of Etna. We reach the city of Bronte, famous for the cultivation of pistachio. Here, we meet a producer of "Etna green gold" who accompanies us to his farm to discover the typical products of Etna agriculture. You will fascinate by the various vegetable crops, walnuts, chestnuts, hazelnuts, apples, pears, prickly pears, figs, cherries, berries and olive trees, everything cultivated organically. Lunch on site with salty and sweet pistachio products.

Proceeding on, visit of a small and renowned winery. It is time to enter a "millstone", a place of production and life. The producer will tell us his family story and his wines. Aperitif with tasting of a white or a rosé.

Dinner in the company of our Living Heritage, a geologist, freelance journalist, storyteller, and writer. His novels draw lymph from his deep love for this territory by describing the landscapes and emotions that each of us, crossing it, captures but would not be able to express with their own efficacy of powerful beauty.

### DAY 4 - Aromas and flavours

After breakfast, transfer to Zafferana Etnea. Visit of a museum park where the entire mythology related to the Volcano is filmed and told. Every people who landed on this "planet" has, in fact, left us stories that have come down to us, and which testify to the symbolic and evocative importance that this volcano has always had over the centuries. The Park is also home to beehives where endangered bees, the "black bees" of Etna, live and work. Zafferana Etnea is considered one of the Italian capitals of high-quality honey, where over 15% of the national honey is produced. Here those who wish can wear the beekeeper's clothes and approach them to observe the natural laboratory to produce sweet nectar. The story of the producer will accompany the honey tasting, in a natural place. Light lunch on site with typical local products.

In the afternoon we will take a walk in uncontaminated and organic fields searching spontaneous herbs and typical aromas of Etna. Subsequently, in a professional kitchen placed at your exclusive disposal, a cooking workshop will begin in which guests and the chef will prepare traditional Sicilian cuisine with selected local food products. At the end, the dishes you have prepared will be served at the table for dinner.

### DAY 5 - The villages of Etna

Departure to Randazzo, to visit an ancient medieval village, which was, for a long time, the gateway to Sicily. The village, known as "the city of 100 churches", has numerous architectural testimonies of Greek, Latin, and Lombard origin.

Lunch in a local restaurant where you can rediscover flavours that are being lost, with traditional peasant dishes and the use of herbs, wild vegetables, and local artisan products.

In the afternoon, transfer to Linguaglossa to meet art through the acquaintance of the famous sculptor Francesco Messina and the lesser-known

painter Salvatore Incorпора, great interpreters of the Italian twentieth century. 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 the murals of the streets of the city centre. Departure to Catania. Dinner in the company of an expert / sommelier who will introduce us a selection of Etna doc wines.

### DAY 6 - The roots of the Etna people

The last 2 days are dedicated to visit the city of Catania, the second largest one in Sicily. Catania, partially destroyed by the lava of 1669 and almost entirely by the earthquake of 1693, was rebuilt in Sicilian Baroque style. "Melior de cineresurgo" ("I am reborn from the ashes even more beautiful") is written in one of the city gates.

The first day, you discover the richness of Catania's architectural heritage, and its natural inheritance consisting of the residual flaps of the lava that emerge inside of the urban perimeter and constitute a geological heritage of inestimable scientific value. More precisely, they are inserted at the southern edge of what is fully considered the "Etna's Region". You will be accompanied by one of the most expert geologists and connoisseurs of our Etna area. He will be joined by one of the most profound connoisseurs of the beauties of the city, one of the most esteemed art historians and anthropologist, who will lead you to those places, some of which are open only for you, in which the lava has meant destruction, history, legend, and, subsequently, reconstruction, rebirth and beauty identity.

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

### DAY 7 - Etna culture. Landscape between lava and sea

On this second day in Catania, you will be accompanied on a path that extends towards the sea outside the eighteenth-century historic centre. You will see the coast between Piazza Europa and the port of Ulysses, where very interesting lava flows with a prevalent Hawaiian surface morphology constitute a geomorphosite of inestimable naturalistic value. Lunch with the typical "hot table" or with a simple

granita and brioche, as the people of Catania do. 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 8

After breakfast, check-out, and end of services.

The estimated budget for this trip is **from € 4.700,00 per person (minimum 4 people) to € 3.700,00 per person (maximum 16 pax)** Ad hoc quotation for 2 pax Maximum group 16 pax.

### Included

Half board for 7 days in a double or twin room. Lunches organized for 7 days, guide service for the duration of the tour, 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 "included".

