

Sun-Kissed Southern Italy

AN ODYSSEY OF FOOD, WINE, AND WONDERS FROM HEEL TO TOE



A CURATED
SOJOURN

TRAVEL FROM ROME THROUGH THE SOUTHERN HALF OF ITALY TO EXPLORE THE HISTORY,
FOOD, WINE, ART, AND NATURAL WONDERS FOUND IN THE REGIONS OF
CAMPANIA, SICILY, BASILICATA, AND PUGLIA



SOJOURN DETAILS AT A GLANCE

2019 DEPARTURE:

September 7—22, 2019

SOJOURN BEGINS:

Rome, Italy

SOJOURN CONCLUDES:

Rome, Italy

PRICE

\$7,495/person (double occupancy)

\$8,795/person (single occupancy)

OPTIONAL AIR PACKAGE

From \$1,395/person*

*See back page for details

TO REGISTER

Call us at **1-800-419-3443** or
click the link below to use the
online registration form.

[CLICK HERE TO
REGISTER ONLINE](#)

ABOUT CURATED SOJOURNS

These unique journeys give you the opportunity to engage with a variety of experts and explore a number of topics as you travel across areas of unparalleled beauty. Accompanied by your Scholarly Sojourns Sojourn Director, you journey in a small group to discover and sample the riches of the region.



The ruins of Taormina's Greek Theatre with Mt. Etna in the background

Sun-Kissed Southern Italy

AN ODYSSEY OF FOOD, WINE, AND WONDERS FROM HEEL TO TOE

This sojourn treats you to the slice of Italy that's richest in contrasts, from magnificent cities to endless sandy beaches, and from rugged coastlines and countryside to picturesque towns and ancient ruins. Together we journey south from Rome, making a gigantic loop through the southern half of the Italian peninsula. Along the way, we explore art and history and enjoy breathtaking scenery as we encounter spectacular monuments from the past. Most especially, we discover the amazing cuisines and superb wines of the regions we visit, enjoying plenty of time to taste and sample these delights in the most idyllic settings.

Our sojourn begins with a visit the vibrant city of Naples, where we learn to cook this city's most famous culinary specialty—pizza—with a professional pizzaiolo. Continuing south we walk in the footsteps of the ancient Romans who perished in the shadows of Mount Vesuvius as we venture into the astounding ruins of the city of Pompeii. Then it is on to one of the most coveted seaside destinations in all of Europe—the stunning Sorrentine Peninsula. Here, we enjoy time for rest and relaxation in the sunshine before exploring the unique culinary heritage of this region and taking an excursion along the gorgeous Amalfi coast.

The next leg of the journey takes us to the Sicily—crossroads of the ancient world—where we uncover Moorish and Norman influences that intertwine with the Greek and Roman ruins standing guard over the evocative landscape. We also see the spectacular volcano, Mt. Etna, and explore fascinating Erice—a city in the sky. And, we cross the Tyrrhenian Sea for a stay in the geologically-fascinating Aeolian Islands where we have time to relax on volcanic beaches. As well, the ancient cities of Taormina, Syracuse, and Trapani reveal their secrets to us and provide for unforgettable culinary experiences.

Finally, we travel through the untouristed Puglia and Basilicata regions—areas rich in art and architecture with a unique culinary heritage—together one of the most undiscovered corners of the Italian Peninsula. Here we explore the town of Matera—known for its ancient cave dwellings, the “Sassi di Matera”—and spend time in the delightful town of Alberobello with its unusual cone-shaped homes called “trulli.” Finally, we visit the stunning, baroque city of Lecce, and

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

DAY 1

ROME—NAPLES

Our journey begins as we depart from Rome this morning and travel south toward Naples. We pause in the green hills overlooking the eternal city—known as the Castelli Romani—where we explore the celebrated white wine of this region—Frascati. Our visit includes not only a vineyard tour with plenty of tastings, but also opportunities to sample the artisanal breads and street foods found here, most especially the delectable stuffed pork roast known as *porchetta*. We conclude with a hearty lunch at a traditional, family-run Osteria before continuing south to arrive in the historic city of Naples. Here we enjoy a private, guided walking tour of the ancient center of the city before enjoying some time to explore further on our own. History lovers may wish to visit Naples' world-renowned archaeological museum. Tonight we gather to enjoy a special welcome dinner that features the best of Neapolitan cuisine. [L | D]

DAY 2

NAPLES—SORRENTO

This morning we enjoy a very special experience as we learn how to make authentic Neapolitan Pizza under the guidance of a master pizzaiolo who is one of the few instructors to be certified at the professional *Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana* (the Real Neapolitan Pizza Association). Together we work along side the chef, learning about the various ingredients and how to make both dough and sauce before creating our own pizzas to cook in a traditional, wood-burning oven. After enjoying a lunchtime feast of our delicious creations, we depart Naples and travel south into the shadows of the massive volcano, Mount Vesuvius, to the city of Pompeii. Here we are joined by a local expert to explore the magnificent archaeological site at the ruins of the city that was destroyed when Vesuvius erupted in AD 79. This evening we travel along the scenic, winding coastline of the Bay of Naples to arrive in the celebrated town of Sorrento, our home for the next three nights. [B | L]

Option: Those who wish can take an optional hike to the crater of Mt. Vesuvius and then spend less time at Pompeii.



Pompeii's ruins sit in Mt. Vesuvius' shadow

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

DAY 1: SATURDAY

September 7

Rome—Naples

DAY 2: SUNDAY

September 8

Naples—Sorrento

DAY 3: MONDAY

September 9

Sorrento

DAY 4: TUESDAY

September 10

Sorrento—Amalfi Coast—Sorrento

DAY 5: WEDNESDAY

September 11

Sorrento—Taormina

DAY 6: THURSDAY

September 12

Taormina—Vulcano

DAY 7: FRIDAY

September 13

Vulcano

DAY 8: SATURDAY

September 14

Vulcano—Trapani



Beautiful Sorrento overlooks the azure Bay of Naples

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

DAY 9: SUNDAY

September 15

Trapani—Erice—Trapani

DAY 10: MONDAY

September 16

Trapani—Agrigento—Syracuse

DAY 11: TUESDAY

September 17

Syracuse

DAY 12: WEDNESDAY

September 18

Syracuse—Tropea

DAY 13: THURSDAY

September 19

Tropea—Matera

DAY 14: FRIDAY

September 20

Matera—Alberobello—Lecce

DAY 15: SATURDAY

September 21

Lecce—Otranto—Lecce

DAY 16: SUNDAY

September 22

Lecce—Rome

“This was the best introduction to the country, its culture, and its history that I could have asked for. I wouldn’t want to travel any other way!”

- Jeffrey S., Kitchener, ON



Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

DAY 3

SORRENTO

We enjoy some unscheduled time to relax or explore Sorrento during the morning and early afternoon. Those who wish to relax might choose to soak up some sun at either at our hotel’s rooftop pool or on the beaches just steps away. Sorrento also offers excellent shopping in the narrow, winding streets of its medieval old town. The more adventurous may opt to hop a ferry from to the nearby island of Capri. There you can enjoy a visit to the famous Blue Grotto and then take some time to sample the delicacies of the island, including a true Insalata Caprese. This afternoon we gather at the restaurant of a local chef to participate in a cooking class that has us preparing authentic Sorrentine cuisine and which culminates with a delicious dinner of the dishes we have created. We cap things off with a tasting of what is surely one of Italy’s most-enjoyed gifts to the world—gelato! [B | D]

DAY 4

SORRENTO—AMALFI COAST—SORRENTO

We take an excursion today to explore Italy’s celebrated Amalfi Coast, which offers breathtaking views of the picture-perfect towns and villages perched upon cliffs above the blue Tyrrhenian Sea. Our journey takes us over the Monti Lattari—the famed mountains which form the spine of the Sorrentine Peninsula—so named for the abundant herds of cows and goats here which produce milk (*lactis* in Latin) for the delicious cheeses produced in this region (which we taste, of course!). In addition to plenty of stops for photos, our journey includes visits to the celebrated villages of Amalfi and Positano, a sampling at one of the region’s premier olive oil producers, a stop at a ceramic manufacturer and, finally, a special tasting at a boutique winery run by one of Italy’s superstar female wine makers, Mila Vuolo. Our return to Sorrento this afternoon provides us with the breathtaking sunset views for which this corner of Italy is famous. Upon reaching our hotel, the remainder of the evening is left free to dine as you wish. [B]

Option: Skip the excursion today and spend the day relaxing or exploring more of the beautiful Sorrentine Peninsula as you wish. You can relax by the hotel’s pool or on the nearby beach, visit Capri, or be even more adventurous by renting a Vespa to explore some of the areas charming seaside towns and villages.

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

DAY 5

SORRENTO—TAORMINA

We depart Sorrento early today and make our way to Naples' Airport where we catch a short flight to Sicily. Arriving at the coastal city of Catania, we travel north into the shadows of the massive volcano, Mt. Etna. Winding up the narrow mountain roads across ancient lava fields, the setting becomes almost other-worldly by the time we reach Terra Costantino Winery. Our visit here includes a thorough tour of the vineyard followed by a delicious, multi-course lunch of Sicilian dishes paired with some of this producer's most prized wines which are made from grapes that have been nurtured in this area's rich, volcanic soil. This afternoon we arrive in the stunning hilltop town of Taormina, perched high above the Ionian Sea. The town is famous for its Teatro Antico di Taormina—a well-preserved, ancient Greco-Roman theater still used to this day. Behind the theater, cliffs drop to the sea forming coves with sandy beaches. Taormina also boasts some of the best shopping in Sicily and interesting boutiques line its streets and piazzas. After checking into our hotel, the remainder of the day is free to shop, explore, and dine on your own. Be sure to take part in the *passaggiata*—a traditional, leisurely stroll enjoyed by both locals and visitors—that brings the town to life this evening. [B|L]

DAY 6

TAORMINA—VULCANO

We depart Taormina early this morning, making our way to the port city of Milazzo where we catch a hydrofoil across the Tyrrhenian Sea to the fairytale-like archipelago known as the Aeolian Islands. This island group—dotted with natural hot springs,

You Visit Vineyards, Enjoy Wine Tastings, and Meet Producers such as Dino and Fabio Costantino

Father and son winemakers Dino and Fabio Costantino share a passion for the wines they create from grapes grown in the rich, volcanic soil of the Etna DOC. While their wines are highly praised, the men remain humble, insisting that “we listen to the grapes, smell the earth, caress the vineyards. When the sun beats down, when the cold nights are blowing on the vines, when they change the color of the leaves, we are there. The wine, however, is not made by us. The wine is made by Etna.”



Winemaking is a family tradition with Dino and Fabio at Terra Costantino



Hotel Palazzo Guardati's stunning view

HOTEL PROFILE

A classic, 4-star hotel in the very heart of Sorrento, Palazzo Guardati is one of the oldest noble buildings in the city. Just 50 feet from central Piazza Tasso and short walk from the beaches, the hotel makes the perfect base for enjoying Sorrento.

Its elegant rooms are set over 3 floors of an ancient palace and are furnished with marble bathrooms, parquet floors, antique furniture, and Murano-glass chandeliers.

Palazzo Guardati offers stunning views of the harbor and the Bay of Naples from its roof terrace, where you can relax on lounge chairs, enjoy a drink from the bar, or cool off with a dip in the pool.

“Your attention to detail is way beyond any tour operator I have ever worked with!”

-Paula F., Travel Agent,
Mahwah, NJ

A SAMPLING OF WHAT YOU SEE AND DO

THE VILLAGE AND VINEYARDS OF FRASCATI

THE HISTORIC CITY OF NAPLES

PIZZA MAKING IN NAPLES

MOUNT VESUVIUS

THE RUINS OF POMPEII

THE CITY OF SORRENTO

THE ISLAND OF CAPRI

THE AMALFI COAST

A COOKING CLASS IN SORRENTO

MOUNT ETNA

THE GRECO-ROMAN THEATRE AT TAORMINA

WINE TASTINGS IN SICILY

THE AEOLIAN ISLANDS

THE CITY OF CEFALU

THE VOLCANO STROMBOLI

THE CITY OF PALERMO

THE ANCIENT CITY OF ERICE

THE VALLEY OF THE TEMPLES

THE IONIAN SEA

THE ANCIENT CITY OF SYRACUSE

A COOKING CLASS IN SICILY

THE SEASIDE RESORT OF TROPEA

THE SASSI OF MATERA

THE TRULLI OF ALBEROBELLO

THE ADRIATIC SEA

THE CITY OF LECCE



The unique beauty of the Aeolian Islands—a UNESCO World Heritage Site

bubbling mud pits, and active volcanos is one of Europe's most interesting geological areas. After checking into our hotel, we depart on a special boat tour which takes us to the nearby large island of Lipari; the chic, exclusive island of Panarea; and finally, the conical-shaped island of Stromboli which is famous for its active volcano that continually spews ash and lava from its crater. The volcano's state of endless eruption—named Strombolic Activity by volcanologists—has also given its name to a famous type of stuffed pizza eponymous with the island. As the sun sets, we sail around the backside of the island to watch in awe the bright bursts of red lava set against the night's sky and shimmering sea. Returning to Vulcano after dark, we enjoy a final toast together before saying goodnight. [B]

DAY 7

VULCANO

We enjoy a completely unscheduled day in the islands today so that everyone can pursue his or her own interests. For complete relaxation, you may choose to simply sunbathe on the famous black sand beaches of Vulcano, taking periodic dips to cool off in the blue Tyrrhenian sea. Or, for more therapeutic relaxation, try taking a hot mud bath in the volcanic pools at the center of town. After allowing the mud to dry on your skin, you can wash it away by sitting in a natural hot springs bubbling from the base of the sea. If shopping and sightseeing are more your style, then take a short ferry ride to nearby Lipari where the bustling town center will offer you more options that you'll have time for. Make sure to enjoy a cannoli while you are there! [B]

DAY 8

VULCANO—TRAPANI

We say farewell to the wonderful Aeolian Islands this morning, traveling back to the mainland by hydrofoil. From there we journey west along the north coast of Sicily, stopping midday to enjoy lunch and explore stunning Cefalu, which is perhaps the quintessential Sicilian seaside town. Its medieval streets, piazzas, and churches so postcard-pretty that it's no wonder director Giuseppe Tornatore set his much-loved film, *Cinema Paradiso*, here. Continuing west this afternoon, we skirt Sicily's capital, Palermo, to stop in the hilltop town of Monreale—renowned for its cathedral which blends Byzantine, Arab, Jewish, Gothic, and Norman traditions, heritage, and art—and then continue to enjoy a tasting at a winery in Sicily's verdant wine-producing region, Alcamo. We arrive in historic Trapani this evening—the westernmost point of Sicily—where we enjoy a spectacular dinner at the celebrated restaurant of an up-and-coming, superstar Sicilian chef. Afterward, we take part in this city's magical *passaggiata* (stopping to enjoy a refreshing gelato along the way, of course!). [B | D]

“The absolute most amazing vacation I've ever been on...”

-Jessica H., San Francisco, CA

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

DAY 9

TRAPANI—ERICE—TRAPANI

We enjoy a leisurely morning in Trapani before setting off on a guided walking tour of the historic city which includes a visit to its famous, 17th-Century Church of Anime Sante del Purgatorio—home of the Misteri, 20 life-sized woodcarvings describing the Passion of the Christ. Following our tour, we take a cable car to the city of Erice which rests at the top of the mountain that shares its name. At 750 meters above sea level, the views are stunning—on a clear day you can see North Africa—but the history here is even more fascinating. This is a city that is mentioned by both Herodotus and Thucydides—it is Greek, but has Carthaginian and Phoenician influences. After some time to explore the castle and walls of the ancient city, we enjoy a demonstration on making traditional, Sicilian pastries and sweets, with plenty of opportunities for sampling, of course! This afternoon, we descend to Trapani where the remainder of the day is left free for you to explore, relax, and dine on your own. [B]

DAY 10

TRAPANI—SYRACUSE

We depart Trapani and drive through the heart of Sicily today, passing through its wonderful interior of olive farms and vineyards. Midway, we stop at Agrigento to explore one of Europe's most spectacular archeological treasures—the stunning Valley of the Temples, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Together with a private guide, we marvel at these most outstanding examples of classical Greek art and architecture and then relax over a hearty, Sicilian picnic which allows us to taste some of the typical culinary products of this region. This evening we arrive in historic Syracuse and then gather for a cooking demonstration at the palatial home of one of the city's life-long residents—a former chef and restaurateur who teaches us to make her favorite seafood dishes. [B | L | D]

You explore sites of great historical significance

Many of the Western World's most important archaeological sites are found in Southern Italy and we explore several of them during our sojourn. Together we walk the streets of ruined city of Pompeii and we go inside the spectacular temples found at Agrigento—considered one of the most outstanding examples of Greater Greece art and architecture. And, for a truly unique experience, we stay in a cave hotel in ancient Matera—the city of caves where humans have dwelt for over 9,000 years.



Ancient Matera glows at sunset

SOJOURN HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Spend 16 days exploring beautiful Southern Italy—the most diverse and untouristed part of the Italian peninsula
- ◆ Experience cooking classes in three regions with unique culinary traditions—Campania, Sicily, and Puglia—as well as enjoy a pastry-making demonstration
- ◆ See ten spectacular UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Matera, Syracuse, the Valley of the Temples, and Mt. Etna
- ◆ Spend two days in the remote Aeolian Islands—one of Europe's most geologically-unique areas—where you see active volcanos and can indulge in therapeutic mud baths
- ◆ Visit the stunningly-beautiful Sorrentine Peninsula and Amalfi Coast and the opportunity to travel to the fabled, picturesque Isle of Capri
- ◆ Enjoy winery visits and wine tastings in five different wine-producing regions, including Frascati, Etna, and Alcamo



We Visit Agrigento's Temple of Concordia—the largest and best-preserved Doric temple in Sicily

“I already had very high expectations based on my previous tour with you, but you even exceeded those expectations.”

—Tallien P., Santa Monica, CA

for



The Piazza Duomo in Syracuse is a Baroque masterpiece

HOTEL PROFILE

Just a five-minute walk from the ancient Greco-Roman theatre and the main piazzas of the town, Hotel Monte Tauro in Taormina provides a tranquil oasis with panoramic views of Naxos Bay. Each of its spacious and elegantly-furnished rooms includes a balcony or terrace with views over the Ionian Sea. The hotel also offers an enormous pool with hydro-massage jets, a sea-view restaurant, and a delightful, rooftop cocktail bar. Taormina’s main shopping and dining area is just 500 feet away and a short cable-car ride from there connects the town with the sands of Isola Bella Beach below.



Hotel Monte Tauro's stunning view

DAY 11 SYRACUSE

We explore the island of Ortygia this morning—the heart of historic Syracuse—on a walking tour guided by a local expert. Together we see some of the most spectacular sites that help reveal layers of the 2,700 years of history in this ancient city. Our endeavor includes visits to the stunning Piazza Duomo, the famous Fonte Aretusa fountain, the Cathedral of St. Lucy, and the Piazza Archimede, dedicated to the famous mathematician and physicist who was born here. Just in time for lunch, we experience a culinary treat with a visit to the vibrant Ortygia Market which greets us with an explosion of colors, scents and authentic flavors as we sample the tasty street foods enjoyed in this region of Sicily. Afterward, the remainder of the day is left free for you to wander through Syracuse's delightful jumble of Greek, Roman, medieval, and Baroque layers—there is so much here—your Scholarly Sojourns tour director will help you find the sites that most interest you. [B]

DAY 12 SYRACUSE—TROPEA

We depart Syracuse after breakfast this morning, making our way along the coast of the Ionian Sea and passing once again in the shadow of mighty Mt. Etna. At midday, we cross the Strait of Messina by ferry to arrive back on the Italian mainland in its southernmost region of Calabria. From there, we take a scenic, coastal route along the in the gulf of St. Euphemia to reach the idyllic town of Tropea, situated upon cliffs and overlooking the crystal clear, turquoise, and warm sea with endless white, sandy beaches. The history of this atmospheric town goes back to the Roman Empire and legend tells us that the Roman God, Hercules, made Tropea one of his ports. In the surrounding areas tombs dating back to the Magna Graecia period have been found. [B]

DAY 13 TROPEA—MATERA

Departing Tropea following breakfast, we head north through Calabria, following the shores of the shimmering Gulf of Taranto. This afternoon we arrive in the fascinating city of Matera, a UNESCO World Heritage Site which includes one of the world's most unique neighborhoods — the Sassi—completely made up of ancient stone and cave dwellings. Our extraordinary lodging here is surely one of the high-

Day-to-Day Sojourn Summary

lights of our trip—an atmospheric, hotel built into the caves in the heart of the ancient Sassi neighborhood. After checking in, we head out to discover Matera's roots—which go back to the Paleolithic Age—with a guided tour of this ancient site. Together we venture inside some of the mysterious Sassi, believed to be the first human settlements in Italy. Over the centuries, they were adapted into family homes, many of which are still inhabited to this day, allowing some people to boast about still living in the same houses of their ancestors of 9,000 years ago! Following our tour, we enjoy some time to explore more of Matera on our own before gathering for a dinner in one of the city's best restaurants—a meal which introduces us to some of the unique culinary specialties of this undiscovered region of Italy—Basilicata. [B | D]

DAY 14

MATERA—ALBEROBELLO—LECCE

We enjoy a leisurely morning in Matera and then head even further off the regular tourist path, traveling south into the region of Puglia (the heel of Italy's boot). At midday, we stop to explore the picturesque town of Alberobello. Here, we visit the traditional cone-shaped, stone trulli houses that are endemic of this area and are still lived in today and then enjoy time for lunch and shopping in this charming and atmospheric town. Afterward, we continue south, stopping for a tasting at a winery where we get our first sampling of the spectacular wines from this region. This evening we arrive in the beautiful Italian city of Lecce, fondly named the "Florence of the South" for its stunning Baroque architecture and artistic heritage. After checking into our hotel, we take a walking tour with a local guide who introduces us to the city's most spectacular monuments. Afterward, the evening is free to explore the city and dine on your own, hopefully taking part in some more passeggiata. [B]

You experience hands-on culinary programs

Each of the regions that we visit is truly distinct—each has its own traditions, an individual atmosphere, and, of course, a unique and delicious cuisine. We investigate their culinary styles with hands-on cooking classes in Naples, Sorrento, Syracuse, and Lecce. In addition, we enjoy a demonstration on traditional Sicilian pastries and have ample opportunities to sample local street foods throughout the sojourn.



Mari del Sud Resort's typical Aeolian Style

HOTEL PROFILE

Oozing with the quintessential charm of the Aeolian islands, Mari del Sud resort is built in the typical island style of whitewashed stone. Its bright, airy rooms are adorned with decorative ceramic tiles and feature private patios for relaxing. The resort offers stunning views over the sea and invites relaxation with plenty of sun loungers and parasols around both the expansive swimming pool—which features a hydro-massage area—and along its stretch of volcanic sand beach. with a dip in the pool.



Making pizza under the guidance of Master Pizzaiolo, Tommaso Mastromatteo

“My wife and I would like to thank you for perhaps the most wonderful trip we have ever been on.”

-David R., Los Angeles, CA

“We seemed to get special treatment wherever we went. This made a great tour, a fabulous tour.”

—Richard H., Myrtle Beach, SC

for



The unique, cone-shaped Trulli houses of Puglia

PRE & POST-TOUR EXCURSIONS

See more of Italy with either a pre or post-tour excursion. We list two popular options below, but can also create unique, customized itineraries to match your travel wishes.

ROME

Arrive two days before the main tour begins and explore the ancient city of Rome with us. You'll tour the ancient Roman Forum, go inside the Colosseum, see the Pantheon, visit the Vatican and other sites.

2 days/2 nights including transfers; 4-star lodging; breakfasts; guides and entrance fees: \$749/person (DO).

FLORENCE

Spend some additional days and nights in the stunning city of Florence where you explore amazing works of art and shop for treasures in its celebrated gold shops along the Ponte Vecchio. Perhaps take a day-trip into the heart of Chianti to sample some of the regions best wines and also visit the atmospheric, medieval city of Siena. Florence offers a variety of shopping, dining, and nightlife options.

2 days/2 nights including train (from Rome), lodging, breakfasts, and customized itinerary from: \$249/night/person (DO)

DAY 15

LECCE

We set off on a stunning drive down the Salento Peninsula this morning to explore one of it's most celebrated seaside towns—Otranto. The picturesque journey takes us past rocky coastlines, beaches, fishing villages, and historic watchtowers that are wanting to be photographed. In Otranto we discover the spectacular Romanesque cathedral—consecrated in 1088—which contains a remarkable, 12-Century mosaic floor as well as the bones and relics of the Martyrs of Otranto, who perished in the 15th-century siege. After some time to explore on our own, we enjoy stunning views and a hearty picnic lunch at nearby Cape Palascia—the most easterly point in Italy and the place where the Adriatic and Ionian Seas meet. Here, at the site of an ancient lighthouse and with views that stretch across the see to Albania, we enjoy a bit of our own La Dolce Vita. Our return journey takes us up the coast past the dramatic coastline of Torre Sant'Andrea where we can take a quick dip in the Adriatic Sea. We arrive back in Lecce this afternoon and enjoy some unscheduled time to explore or perhaps do a last bit of souvenir shopping. Tonight we gather for a very special final dinner together which features authentic Pugliese cuisine. [B|L|D]

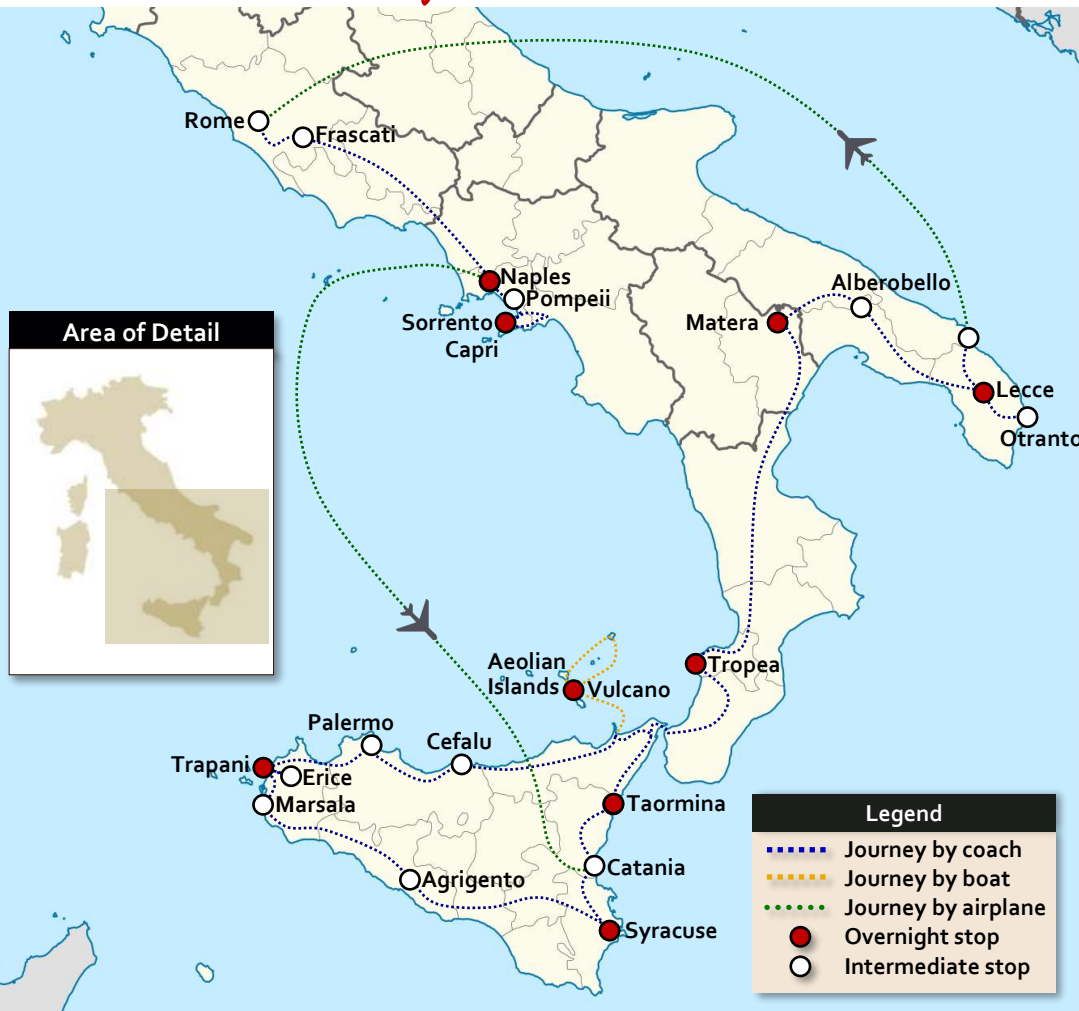
Option: Skip the excursion today and spend the day relaxing and exploring more of the beautiful Lecce as you wish. The city offers a number of ways to enjoy the day, including museums, galleries, and terrific shopping.

DAY 16

LECCE—ROME

We depart Lecce this morning, traveling to nearby Squinzano to take part in one final culinary program. Here, under the guidance of lovely chef Ylenia and her team of *nonne* (grandmothers) from this charming, Puglian village, we learn the art of cooking traditional, Pugliese homestyle dishes. Together we make four delicious courses—punctuated with tastings of wines from around Puglia—and then partake in a feast of the fruits of our labor. It's appropriate that our tour draws to a close with this activity as we find all of the light, goodness, and warmth we have encountered during our 16-day dalliance across sun-kissed, Southern Italy to be perfectly reflected in the hearts of our hosts and the food we make and enjoy with them. This afternoon, we continue to the airport in Brindisi to catch our return flight to Rome where we say our goodbyes as our amazing journey comes to an end. [B|L]

Sojourn Map



View from the balcony at Royal Maniace

HOTEL PROFILE

A superbly-situated, 4-star hotel in the historic city center of Syracuse, the Royal Maniace offers panoramic views of emerald-blue seas combined with breathtaking beauty and elegantly-styled, modern rooms to make your stay relaxing and comfortable.

Located along the waterfront of the ancient island of Ortigia, the hotel makes the perfect base for getting the most out of your stay in Syracuse. The historic streets and all the architectural wonders that the ancient city has to offer are just outside and the amazing, 7th-Century Duomo is just five minutes away.

"We were somewhat apprehensive to try an organized tour, but this experience was phenomenal"

-Barbara B., Annapolis, MD



In ancient Matera we stay in a unique, cave hotel

"This was an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime experience that I will take with me personally and professionally for the rest of my life."

- Scott K., Waltham, MA

Sojourn Details & Registration Information

SUN-KISSED SOUTHERN ITALY

2018 DEPARTURE

September 7—22, 2019 (sojourn #1081936)

PRICE:

\$7,495/Person (Double Occupancy)

\$8,795/Person (Single Occupancy)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER ONLINE](#)

SOJOURN BEGINS SOJOURN CONCLUDES

Rome, Italy

Rome, Italy

OPTIONAL AIR PACKAGE

From \$1,395/Person*

*Air package includes round-trip, economy airfare, airport transfers in Italy, and 100% travel assurance. Price subject to change until booked.

REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

TO REGISTER

Call us: 1-800-419-3443—We are ready to assist you Monday to Friday from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM (EST).

Visit us at: www.scholarlysojourns.com—Here you will find an online registration form as well as a printable version.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Due within 14 days of registration: \$1000/person deposit

Due 90 days prior to departure: Balance

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Scholarly Sojourns highly recommends that all sojourn participants purchase travel insurance to protect their trip. We will send further information once you have been confirmed on a sojourn.

© 2019 Scholarly Sojourns. All rights reserved.

PRICES INCLUDE

16-day travel program; 15 nights accommodation in specially-selected 4-star, boutique hotels; 16 breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 6 dinners; air transportation from Naples to Catania and from Brindisi to Rome; all sightseeing, wine tastings, cooking classes, excursions, and activities described in this brochure; entrance fees and private guides in select locations; ground transportation by private minibus; water transportation; all gratuities (except for hotel porters), and all other tour activities as described in the day-to-day summary.

PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE

International airfare to and from Italy; meals not indicated in the day-to-day summary; beverage options other than water, wine, beer, or soft-drinks with group meals; local transportation by bus, taxi, water taxi, metro, or light rail; passport or visa fees and necessary photos; immunizations; travel insurance; excess baggage charges; airport taxes; medical, hospitalization, or evacuation costs; gratuities for hotel porters; laundry; other personal items, including incidental hotel charges; any other item not specifically indicated.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

MEETING LOCATION AND TIME

The meeting point for this sojourn is Rome's Fiumicino – Leonardo da Vinci International Airport. Participants should plan to rendezvous there by 9:00 AM on Saturday, September 7, 2019. You will be greeted there by your Scholarly Sojourns Tour Director.

CONCLUSION AND DEPARTURE

The sojourn concludes the afternoon of Sunday, September 22, 2019, when the group returns to Rome's Fiumicino – Leonardo da Vinci International Airport. We will be glad to help you with your onward travel plans.

EARLY ARRIVAL OR LATE DEPARTURE

Scholarly Sojourns is happy to assist you with booking additional nights prior to the start of your tour or following its conclusion. Often we are able to secure better rates than are available to the general public. We are also happy to provide itinerary suggestions should you wish to do additional travel in Italy.



Ancient Matera is a UNESCO World Heritage Site



SCHOLARLY SOJOURNS | www.scholarlysojourns.com

2723 South State Street · Suite 150 · Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104