

Sicily



THE ARTS
SOCIETY
TRAVEL AFFILIATE

Arranged with Travel Editions Group Travel for The Arts Society Colchester

Mount Etna

12 - 17 October 2025 – 6 days *£1,999pp

This wonderful tour to Sicily has been specially crafted for The Arts Society Colchester with a tailor made itinerary that shows off the huge historic, scenic and cultural diversity of some of the Mediterranean's largest island's most appealing sights. From Roman remains, towering volcanoes, Baroque architecture and stunning coastal scenery, this tour offers a wonderful variety of pleasures. Your guide is local expert, Aureliano Garozzo, whose knowledge, commitment and enthusiasm will add massively to your appreciation of this distinctive destination.



Marzamemi



Syracuse, Ortigia

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*Based on 25 passengers.

An initial deposit of £300.00 per person will be required by 31st December 2024 to secure your place.



Day by day itinerary

Day 1 Arrival.

Local coach transfer to London and flight to Catania. On arrival, transfer to your hotel on Ortigia Island in Syracuse for check in to the hotel for a five-night stay on bed and breakfast basis.

Day 2 Full day to Noto and Marzamemi.

Rebuilt after the 1693 earthquake, Noto boasts magnificent Baroque architecture, unique in Sicily. Highlights include the Cathedral, the exteriors of Palazzo Nicolaci, Palazzo and church of Santa Chiara. We will enjoy a guided walking tour and there will also be time to explore the streets independently which are perfect for a leisurely stroll amongst the stunning architecture. We then continue down the south east coast to the delightful fishing village of Marzamemi with its whitewashed houses and lovely waterfront location. We enjoy a group welcome drink and dinner at the hotel tonight.

Day 3 Mount Etna and Catania.

A morning tour to the iconic symbol of Sicily, Mount Etna, Europe's largest active volcano which dominates the whole of Eastern Sicily. Some of Etna's most devastating eruptions were in 1381 and 1669 when the lava reached Catania. We'll explore some of the region around the volcano before heading to Catania for lunch and the

afternoon at leisure to explore. Catania is an atmospheric city that boasts one of the greatest Roman ruins – the Amphitheatre – and fabulous baroque architecture, as well as a colourful fish market.

Day 4 Piazza Armerina.

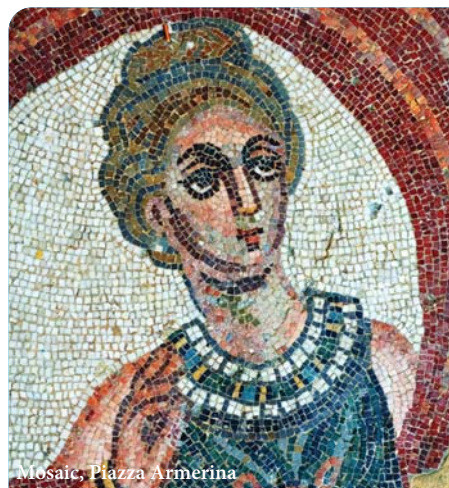
The magnificent mosaics in the luxury Roman Villa del Casale at Piazza Armerina, which were declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1997, are well worth the scenic drive inland over the countryside. A typical rustic lunch with wine is included. After lunch we return to the hotel for evening and dinner at leisure.

Day 5 Syracuse.

Full day in the capital of the south east of Sicily, Siracusa, whose history dates back some 27 centuries. Guided visit to the Neapolis archaeological area, including the impressive Greek amphitheatre and the 'Ear of Dionysus'. There will be free time too, to wander around the mystical peninsular of Ortigia, surrounded on all sides by the Mediterranean, with a wealth of sights from the Roman era through to the Baroque. Fish lunch with wine included. Return to the hotel for evening and dinner at leisure.

Day 6 Departure.

Morning at leisure before the coach return to Catania airport for return flight back to London and local coach transfer.



Mosaic, Piazza Armerina



Where you stay

Hotel Domus Mariae Benessere

Modern four-star hotel, in a fantastic location on the island of Ortigia, close to the historic centre of Syracuse. Facilities include wellness centre, terrace, restaurant and comfortable bedrooms with all modern facilities.

Included in the price

- Return scheduled flights with British Airways from Gatwick to Catania
- **Provisional flight with BA:**
Gatwick 16.35 – Catania 20.55
Catania 18.45 – Gatwick 21.10
- Five nights' accommodation on bed and breakfast basis at the four-star Hotel Domus Mariae Benessere, based on shared occupancy of a twin/double room
- One dinner
- Two lunches
- Transfers and full touring itinerary
- Local guide, Aure Garozzo, as Tour Manager throughout

Not included

- Travel Insurance
- Double for sole occupancy £195
- Double for sole occupancy with sea view £245
- Queen size single £78 (Queen Size' single rooms have single beds)
- Sea view supplement double or twin room £40 per person
- Drinks and meals not specified
- Items of a personal nature



ABTA No.V3120