

Sede operativa:

ERIS Centre – Suite 309

Via Pulica s.n.c. – Lotto Colle del Gelsomino
I95025 – Aci S. Antonio (CT) – ITALY

info@bluestonesicily.com

www.bluestonesicily.com

(+39) 095 7652696 Tel ext. 309 – Fax ext. 319

SICILIAN LANDSCAPES

Travel through a landscape of extraordinary and uncontaminated beauty, of softly undulating mountains, volcanoes and hills, olive groves and vineyards following ancient trails laid by hermits, saints, peasants and pilgrims. Visit celebrated Medieval, Roman, Greek, Arab towns which retain the hauntingly primeval qualities of their past, and provide intriguing glimpses of the ancient world. Days are spent high in the Volcano Mountains, or simply immersed in the unsurpassed beauty of patterned fields and hilltop towns that give Sicily its characteristic charm.

7 nights / 8 days

Palermo (2 nights), Taormina (3 nights), Agrigento (1 night), Palermo (1 night)

Departure GUARANTEED (with a minimum 4 guest)

Small size group: Minimum 4 clients - Maximum 12 clients

Day 1 (Saturday) Palermo

Upon arrival to Palermo airport, own transfer to your hotel. Tonight, simple briefing and cocktail, then we enjoy a Welcome Dinner at local trattoria-restaurant. **(D)**

Day 2 (Sunday) The Godfather Movie in Corleone and Ficuzza Natural Park

Today's drive across the vast countryside enables us to see Sicily's great variety of sceneries. We soon arrive in Corleone, one of the attractive places in the environment of Palermo, primarily known as the birthplace of Mafia. The name of the town was used as the adopted surname of the title character in Francis Ford Coppola's movie, *The Godfather*. Later, we will continue to Ficuzza, a nature reserve park and small hamlet in the mountains south of Palermo, in the township district of Corleone. We will rest in the park and enjoy a pleasant walk in the Ficuzza village. The park was founded to be a logistic support point for the royal amusement reserve of Bourbon dynasty. During the centuries, Ficuzza wood has been the scenario of many main historical events of Sicily: illegal breeding, mafia murders, Tripolitan rebels deported during WW1, seat of the fascist military headquarters during WW2. During our walk into the natural park through Ferdinand III's hunting lodge, we'll enjoy a local light lunch in the ancient rail station. Here, we can taste typical local and country dishes, in a fantastic easy feeling. Later, back to Palermo. **(BB L)**

Day 3 (Monday) Cefalù & Nebrodi Park

Today we depart to Cefalù, a charming coastal town with medieval streets and delightful views overlooking a rocky coast, under the ever present gaze of the Norman-Arab-Byzantine cathedral, one of the greatest churches of southern Europe. Nestled between the Madonie Mountains and the sea, Cefalù Mountain boasts the ruins of a large fortress and an ancient Sicanian-Greek temple. The view from the top is inspiring. Leaving Cefalù, we'll drive along the Tyrrhenian coast and we'll enter into the Nebrodi Park, known for its immense forests full of majestic trees. We will stop for a light lunch (*not included*) in a local country restaurant, located in the area of Miraglia Wood, across the lovely area of San Fratello, also name to an endemic horse breed that lives free in these territories. This afternoon we'll go across the lovely Cesarò and the fantastic Randazzo at the boundary between the Nebrodi Park and the great Etna Volcano Park. We'll drive across the northern slopes of Mount Etna to reach Taormina, world famous resort of Sicily for its views and atmosphere. Tonight, dinner at hotel **(BB D)**

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Day 4 (Tuesday) The rocky Necropolis of Pantalica

(In case of bad weather forecast, we will swap this excursion with Syracuse excursion)

Today day trip will be characterized by a full immersion in nature, history and adventure, visiting one of the largest and most beautiful prehistoric necropolis in the world: Pantalica. It will be very interesting to see the big Necropolis of Pantalica, that testify the presence of man in Sicily since pre-history, and it gives a touch of mystery to this area. An expedition through the protected area (soon to become a nature reserve) around the Anapo valley reveals an extraordinary landscape, comprising a succession of gorges defined by vertical cliffs, lemon trees and white limestone. In the afternoon, back in Taormina **(BB)**

Day 5 (Wednesday) Mount Etna in Jeep Ride

A short drive by Jeep takes us to the slopes of Mt. Etna. Weather and volcanic conditions permitting, we experience the lava fields and incredible views of Europe's highest volcano, and one of the most active. We'll visit the Cave of the Thieves and Mount Fontana, with its spectacular view of Bove Valley, and the extinct craters of Sartorius Mounts. Then to a farmhouse, to taste Etna rural food, indulging in a typical light-lunch at a farmhouse. After light lunch, we enjoy a stop to the entrance of Alcantara Gorges, before driving along the coast to reach Taormina **(BB L)**

Day 6 (Thursday) Caltagirone, Agrigento Temples and the wonderful Kolymbetra Park

After breakfast, we'll drive through the heart of Sicily to reach the fine city of Caltagirone, one of the most important towns for Sicilian pottery and ceramics. We'll walk in the city centre and climb on the famous steps of the Santa Maria stairway, all decorated with local colored ceramics. Time at leisure for shopping in the nice ceramics-shops. Then we will continue to reach the great Agrigento, whose history dates back to 580 BC. An historic, natural and scenery site of immense value is the Kolymbetra Garden, a small valley in the heart of the Valley of Temples. An authentic archaeological and agricultural jewel in the Valley of Temples returned to light after decades of abandon; this is an extraordinary garden in terms of magnificence, abundance and glory of nature, as well as the wealth of archaeological finds that are still coming to light. Dinner at the hotel. After dinner, we enjoy an orientation tour of Agrigento by night, to admire the Illuminated Temples. **(BB D)**

Day 7 (Friday) Sant'Angelo Muxaro, its country Bread, Pizza & Cooking Experience

This morning we'll depart to the country town of Sant'Angelo Muxaro. Obviously, one who has never been here can't be but surprised and pleasantly awed when, from the provincial road that from Agrigento meanders into the inland along curves, twists and bends between mountains and hills, will find himself almost immediately in front of a unique and spectacular view. On a lonely hill, in the centre of the valley of the river Platani and surrounded by a wild and harsh vegetation, a handful of houses lie on the sheer slope of the hill itself... this is the small town of Sant'Angelo Muxaro! On arrival, meet **Donna Concetta**. She will teach us Pizza and Bread preparation. Simple light-lunch to taste *Sicilian Pizza* and *Pane Cunsatu*, a typical home-made bread with olive oil, pecorino cheese. During afternoon, brief visit to the little city centre and local shops, to admire the grey-headed men who weave the traditional straw-fruit-baskets. In the afternoon, departure to Palermo. Tonight we gather for a Farewell Dinner at local restaurant **(BB L D)**

Day 8 (Saturday) Palermo

Time to say goodbye to Sicily and own transfer to Palermo airport **(BB)**

MEAL LEGEND: BB Buffet Breakfast **L** Lunch or Light Lunch **D** Dinner

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First Class Hotels on this Tour:

Palermo Hotel Politeama

Agrigento Hotel Della Valle

Taormina Hotel Lido Caparena

Hotel may be substituted with others of similar category

Highlights:

Palermo	Sicilian Capital
Corleone	Godfather Movie
Ficuzza	The Park from Bourbon Dynasty
Cefalù	Norman Town
Nebrodi Park	San Fratello, Cesarò and Randazzo
Pantalica	The Ancient Necropolis
Mount Etna	Jeep Ride Experience
Caltagirone	Sicilian Pottery
Agrigento	Valley of the Temples and the Kolymbetra Park
Sant'Angelo Muxaro	Bread, Pizza Cooking Home Experience

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PRICE ARE EUR PER PERSON, LAND ONLY, IN DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

TOUR RATE:

Euros 1895.00 per person in dbl/twn occupancy

Euros 2145.00 per person in single occupancy

3rd Bed Reduction: Euros 60.00

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- ✓ Palermo: Three nights accommodation in First class Hotel, standard room
- ✓ Agrigento: One night accommodation in First class Hotel, standard room
- ✓ Taormina: Three nights accommodation in First class Hotel, standard room no sea-view
- ✓ Buffet continental breakfast daily
- ✓ Deluxe Vehicle-Mini-Coach with Air Conditioning, no toilet
- ✓ English speaking Tour Director/Driver as per program
- ✓ Welcome cocktail
- ✓ Welcome Dinner with group set-menu, 3 course
- ✓ Two dinners at Hotel with group set-menu, 3 course
- ✓ One light lunch at ancient rail station with group set menu
- ✓ One collective Etna jeep ride
- ✓ One light lunch at Etna farmhouse with group set menu
- ✓ One cooking pizza and bread course in Sant'Angelo Muxaro
- ✓ One light lunch in Sant'Angelo Muxaro with group set menu
- ✓ All sightseeing, tasting and excursions as specified in the itinerary
- ✓ Hotel & City Taxes

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED?

- ✓ Intercontinental Flight
- ✓ Gratuities to Tour Director and Driver
- ✓ Portorage at airport
- ✓ Baggage Handling of one piece of luggage at hotel
- ✓ Beverages and meals not mentioned in the program
- ✓ Admission fee for all sites and other activities as per itinerary
- ✓ Arrival/Departure airport transfers

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DEPARTURE

RETURN

Sat Mar 8	Sat Mar 15
Sat Mar 22	Sat Mar 29
Sat Apr 5	Sat Apr 12
Sat Apr 12	Sat Apr 19
Sat Apr 26	Sat May 3
Sat May 17	Sat May 24
Sat May 24	Sat May 31
Sat May 31	Sat Jun 7
Sat Jun 14	Sat Jun 21
Sat Jun 28	Sat Jul 5
Sat Jul 12	Sat Jul 19
Sat Sep 13	Sat Sep 20
Sat Sep 27	Sat Oct 4
Sat Oct 11	Sat Oct 18
Sat Oct 25	Sat Nov 1
Sat Nov 8	Sat Nov 15

CANCELLATION POLICY, per person

Bluestone tourism services S.a.s. reserves the right to cancel or reschedule any tour departure in accordance with operating requirements or circumstances beyond its control. If cancellation is made anytime prior to departure of the tour Bluestone tourism services S.a.s. only liability will be to refund to the passenger the amount it has received for the tour booking.

[In case clients need to cancel the tour, read below our Cancellation Policy](#)

Days Prior to Departure	Cancellation Fees
30 or more days	Euros 50,00
29 - 20 days	25% of the Tour cost
19 - 15 days	50% of the Tour cost
14 - 4 days	75% of the Tour cost
3 - 0 days	100% of the Tour cost

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT

A deposit of 20% per person is required at the time of reservation. At that moment a signed contract is required to hold your reservation. Final payment of the tour is due 60 days prior to departure.

List of Hotels will be advised 10 days before departure

BlueStone Tourism Services s.a.s.

5

Sede legale:

Via Peppino Impastato n° 37

95123 CATANIA

P. IVA 04453840870

REA 296693

Licenza n° 657/S11 – TUR

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OPTIONAL EXTRA PACKAGE: Palermo Airport Transfers and Admission Fee

ADMISSION FEES ON THIS TOUR:

Agrigento Valley of the Temples

TOUR RATE:

Euros 105.00 per person in dbl/twn occupancy

Euros 150.00 per person in single occupancy

***Night use supplement Euros 20.00 one way

WHAT IS INCLUDED?

- ✓ Collective Palermo airport transfers done from h 8:00AM to h 7:00PM
- ✓ Admission fees included for all sites and other activities as per itinerary