

SICILY

8 DAY TRAVEL ITINERARY





DETAILS

TRANSPORTATION

THREE AIRPORT OPTIONS: PALERMO AIRPORT (PMO), CATANIA AIRPORT (CTA), OR TRAPANI AIRPORT (TPS) FOR TRANSFERS TO/FROM AIRPORT: <u>TEX TRANSFER</u>

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION IS NOT RELIABLE - RENT A CAR INSTEAD

A HEAD'S UP!

- Many car rentals companies will drop off/pick up your car directly at your accommodation for an extra fee. They will also install car seats if requested ahead of time.
- This itinerary is tailored for a shoulder season visit (November- March). Many of the activities are also favorable options for summertime, but if traveling in the summer, I'd also recommend visiting many of the beautiful beaches in Sicily. (For reference, we visited over the Thanksgiving holiday).

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AFTERNOON

ARRIVE AT TENUTA DELLA CAVA VILLA

EVENING

HAVE DINNER AT THE VILLA - ARRANGED BY <u>THE THINKING</u> <u>TRAVELLER</u>

MORNING

- □ HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE VILLA
- **<u><u></u>** EXPLORE THE STREETS OF NOTO</u>

AFTERNOON

HAVE LUNCH AT SABBINIRICA A PUTIA D'ERCOLE (NOTO) RELAX AT THE VILLA'S WELLNESS SPA

EVENING

HAVE PIZZA AT RISTORANTE A CAVA

MORNING

- □ HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE VILLA
- MORNING SWIM AT THE VILLA'S WELLNESS SPA

AFTERNOON

HAVE LUNCH AT CASEFICIO BORDERI EXPLORE ORTIGIA (THE PORT OF SIRACUSA)

EVENING

HAVE THANKSGIVING DINNER AT THE VILLA

TRAVEL TIP

• Keep "Day 1" light, especially if adjusting to new time zone, or if you had an overnight flight.

TRAVEL TIP

• Stores in Italy close between 12-4pm. We found that in the low season, some weren't open in the morning either, so it's best to explore towns in the later afternoon if you plan to do some shopping.

TRAVEL TIP

- Day 3 was American Thanksgiving. You can read more about our Thanksgiving in Sicily experience in <u>this blog article.</u>
- If you love history, be sure to check out the Neapolis Archaeological Park in Siracusa
- A tuk-tuk tour tour is an easy way to see Siracusa + Ortigia with kids.
- The owner of Caseficio Borderi is known to be the "best sandwich maker in the world." Make sure to try one of his creations!



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I HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE VILLA

TAKE A TOUR OF THE VILLA'S ESTATE RUINS - AN ANCIENT ROMAN AQUEDUCT AND ROCK CHURCH FROM 1000 AD

AFTERNOON

- * TREASURE HUNT TOUR OF RAGUSA
- m EXPLORE GIARDINO IBELO

EVENING

Y DINNER AT CICCIO SULTANO DUOMO (MICHELIN STAR, RAGUSA)

TRAVEL TIP

- <u>The Thinking Traveller</u> can arrange the treasure hunt tour of Ragusa
- I highly recommend spending time at the Giradino Ibelo in Ragusa. It's a beautiful walled garden, with spectacular views and fantastic playground for kids.
- Foodies may want to try Ciccio Sultano in Ragusa a 2 michelin star restaurant.

MORNING

HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE VILLA MODICA CHOCOLATE MAKING CLASS

🔶 AFTERNOON

Y HAVE LUNCH AT RADICI (MODICA)

m EXPLORE MODICA

EVENING

X HAVE DINNER AT MANNA

MORNING

- HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE VILLA
- = PICK UP FOR GUIDED JEEP TOUR OF MOUNT ETNA

AFTERNOON

- m GUIDED JEEP TOUR OF MOUNT ETNA

EVENING

📠 ARRIVAL LATE EVENING BACK AT VILLA

TRAVEL TIP

- I highly recommend taking a chocolate making class. You can read more about it <u>here</u>.
- In Modica there is a small green train that you can hop on to take a short 30 min tour of the city. It's very kid friendly.
- Radici was our favorite meal of the trip! Don't miss it!

TRAVEL TIP

- Bring snacks and games for the kids in the car
- Dress in layers if doing this in the fall/winter. It could be snowing on Mt. Etna!
- This is a long day, so you may want to consider arranging for an invilla dinner experience when you return, instead of going out to eat.



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HAVE BREAKFAST AT THE VILLA

😑 DRIVE TO TAORMINA

AFTERNOON

m EXPLORE TAORMINA

- X HAVE LUNCH AT BELMOND GRAND HOTEL TIMEO
- m EXPLORE THE GREEK THEATER OF TAORMINA

EVENING

🍸 HAVE DINNER AT OSTERIA DA RITA

TRAVEL TIP

- It's best to park <u>here</u>, and take the gondola up to the main city square.
- For the best views go to: Belmond Hotel Timeo (get a drink or bite to eat), the Greek Theater, or take a taxi up to Castlemola.
- Keep in mind the last timed ticket entrance into the Greek Theater in low season is 3:30pm!

MORNING

THE VILLA

AFTERNOON

X HAVE LUNCH IN MARZAMEMI (BEACH TOWN) * RELAX AT THE VILLA

EVENING

Y HAVE DINNER AT LA DONNA PATRIZIA

TRAVEL TIP

- The Vendicari Nature preserve is a must do! Keep in mind it closes around 4pm, so best to go earlier in the day.
- Marzamemi is very quiet in the low season, but you can take a nice walk along the water. If Taverna La Ciamola is open, I'd recommend going there.



FAVORITE RESTAURANTS + ONES AT THE TOP OF OUR LIST

NOTO:

- **Ristorante Crocifisso-** Known as one of the best restaurants in Noto, serving traditional Sicilian food.
- Sabbinirica A Putia D'ercole A local favorite, which serves fantastic sandwiches and salads.
- **Manna** Delicious Mediterranean food with an elegant twist. If visiting in the spring or summer, enjoy dinner on the cobblestone patio
- Contina Con Cucina A local trattoria with fantastic eggplant parm.

RAGUSA:

- Ciccio Sultano Duomo A 2 Michelin Star restaurant in the heart of the city.
- La Taverna Del Dupo A family run trattoria, local favorite.

MODICA:

• **Radici** - One of our favorite meals. Make sure to try the fried pasta pomodoro and the mushroom pasta.

TAORMINA:

- **Ristorante Timeo-** The views from the Belmond Grand Hotel Timeo are unforgettable. Enjoy a drink or light lunch on the patio.
- Osteria Rosso Divino- Traditional Sicilian fare, with a focus on seafood.

SIRACUSA + ORTIGIA

- Era Ortigia Known for excellent pizza.
- Sicilia in Tavola Small intimate restaurant with a daily changing menu.
- Don Camillo- Known as one of the best restaurants in Siracusa.
- **Caseficio Borderi** The owner of this sandwich shop is known as "the best sandwich maker in the world."
- Osteria Da Seby- Don't miss the pistachio pesto gnocchi.

ROSOLINI

• La Donna Patrizia- Our villa chef owns and operates this small restaurant in Rosolini. He's an exceptional chef! Don't miss the pumpkin ravioli, or his homemade arancini.

MARZAMEMI

• **Taverna La Cialoma-** A Michelin star restaurant in a beautiful beachside town.





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