



**TAORMINA
ITINERARY
OCTOBER 27 - NOVEMBER 4**

DAY 1 10/27 - BOSTON~ROME~CATANIA: Depart Boston's Logan International Airport late on an overnight flight to Catania (*via Rome*), with full meal and beverage service, as well as stereo headsets, available while in flight.

DAY 2 10/28 - CATANIA~TAORMINA: Upon arrival at the airport in Catania, we will be met by our Tour Escort and transfer to the centrally located in Taormina. Our first afternoon in Sicily will be for rest and relaxation prior to a "Welcome Drink" and orientation meeting following **dinner**. Overnight.

DAY 3 10/29 - TAORMINA: After **breakfast**, a local expert will conduct a half-day sightseeing tour of Taormina, including visits to all of the major attractions and a complete orientation of the city. The unquestioned highlight of the tour will be a visit to the Greek and Roman Theater, situated on the slope of Monte Tauro. From here, we will experience a breathtaking view of the Sicilian landscape, especially Mt. Etna in the distance. Return to the hotel for **lunch**, and the rest of the day is at leisure. **Dinner** and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 4 - 10/30 SIRACUSA: After **breakfast**, we are off on a full-day excursion to Siracusa, a spectacular city along the southeastern coast that has the largest concentration of Greek ruins outside of Greece! At one time, Siracusa was the biggest, wealthiest city in all of Europe. In the "Archaeological Zone", we will see the ancient amphitheater and colosseum, which date back to the 5th century BC. **Pizza lunch** in Siracusa. We will also see the colorful harbor and the Church of the Weeping Madonna. Return to our hotel for **dinner** and overnight.

DAY 5 -10/31 CATANIA & MT. ETNA: After **breakfast**, we will set out to enjoy a half-day tour of beautiful Catania, including the Chapel of St. Agatha in the Cathedral, the War Museum, and the open air market. At lunchtime, we will partake of a typical **vintner's lunch including a wine tasting**. This afternoon's excursion will take us halfway up Mt. Etna, the largest volcano in all of Europe. This active volcano affords a fascinating sightseeing tour. The topography and flora will change dramatically as we ascend the mountain for a spectacular view of Taormina and surrounding Sicily. Return to Taormina for **dinner** and overnight at our hotel.

DAY 6 -11/1 TINADARI & FURNARI: After **Breakfast**, we are off on a full-day excursion to Tindari and Furnari. During today's tour, we will stop in the ancient city of Tindari for visit to the Sanctuary of the Black Madonna, and then tour the ceramic factory in Furnari to learn how Italian ceramics are made - start to finish. And to satisfy our culinary desires, we will enjoy a wonderful **lunch** at a typical Italian restaurant along our way! Return to our hotel in Taormina for **dinner** and overnight.

DAY 7 - 11/2 SAVOCA & FORZA d'AGRO: After **breakfast** at our hotel we board our motorcoach for our tour of Savoca and Forza d'Agro to see the locations used in the filming of *The Godfather* movies including the wedding church and *Bar Vitelli* returning to the hotel for lunch . The remaining part of the day is at leisure. **Dinner** at the hotel. Overnight

DAY 8 - 11/3 MESSINA: Today, after **breakfast** we will drive north along the spectacular east coast of Sicily to Messina for a city tour. We will experience a visit to the Duomo to see its fabulous mosaics. The Duomo is also famous for its clock tower, with moving statues that activate with a playing of "Ave Maria" at noontime each day. Enjoy a view across to Calabria on the Italian mainland. We will have time for shopping or individual sightseeing before returning to the hotel for a late **lunch** and time at leisure. Return to the hotel for **dinner** and overnight.

DAY 9 - 11/4 CATANIA~ROME ~BOSTON: **Breakfast** and hotel check out. Transfer to the airport in Catania to board our return flight to Boston (*via Rome*) *Your escort will provide transportation details Friday evening.*